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THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND, 2011

...AND ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST...

Anger as Tories and Lib-Dems are squeezed out of scrutiny positions

INTERVENTION
by some Labour
members of
Bridgend County
Borough Council
(BCBC) in the
selection of councillors
who will chair the scrutiny
committees has been
criticised.

After some Labour
members decided to
vote when scrutiny
chairs were up for grabs,
Conservative leader Pat
Hacking lost her position
as chairman of the
Health and Well Being
scrutiny committee at
last week's annual meeting.

The seat was taken by
former Labour mayor
Megan Butcher, of
Cornelly, who now
belongs to the
Annibynwyr group of
Independents, which is
led by another former
Labour councillor, Jeff
Tildesley.

This means that his

group now holds four of
the five scrutiny chairs
and also the chair of the
audit committee.

Liberal Democrat
leader Cheryl Green lost
her seat as chair of the
Community Safety
scrutiny committee last
year when it was taken
by Plaid Cymru member,
Malcolm James.

He is the only Plaid
Cymru councillor on the
authority but is aligned
to the Annibynwyr.

The year before,
Coun Ella Dodd, another
former Labour councillor,
ousting Pat Hacking's
husband Terry, also a
Conservative member,
as chair of the audit
committee, a post which
is traditionally held by
the opposition.

The only scrutiny
chair not held by the
Annibynwyr is
Corporate Resources,
which is held by Coun
Bob Burns, who is a former
Liberal Democrat but
who now leads his own
group of three dem-

**REPORT
by JAYNE
ISAAC**

ocratic independents.

The other scrutiny
chairs are all held by
Annibynwyr members –
Peter Foley, who is a
former Labour and
Liberal Democrat cabinet
member and who
heads the Children's
scrutiny committee; and
Ken Hunt who is an
independent who has
never been a Labour
councillor and chairs
Community Renewal
and Environment.

Coun Cheryl Green,
who was the leader of
the council under the
Rainbow Alliance
administration which
ran it from 2004 to 2008,
said that while she and
Pat were disappointed at
what had happened to
them personally, they
were more concerned
about the effect on the
council.

"There is now no pro-

portionality at all in the
way that scrutiny chairs
are allocated," she said.

"The council has to
ensure by law that every
party is given its fair
share of seats on committee
in a proportional way
but there is no requirement
from the Welsh Assembly
that chairs are allocated
proportionately."

She said that under
the Labour administration
prior to 2004, which
was led by Jeff Jones,
Labour members never
took part in the voting
for scrutiny chairs.

"He felt from the
beginning that it was up

to the opposition to
decide between themselves
who would get these
chairs," she said.

"In fact, he e-mailed
me last year when I lost
my seat to say that he
was dismayed by what
was happening."

"What we have at the
moment is Labour members
choosing the cabinet,
choosing the statutory
committee chairs such
as planning and
licensing, and now influencing
the choice of scrutiny
chairs as well. It is
simply not fair."

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 7)

Local man defrauded vulnerable clients

by AJ SICLUNA

A CROOKED independent
financial
advisor who
defrauded dozens of
clients out of investments
totalling
more than £2.25
million has been
jailed for seven
years at Cardiff
Crown Court.

David Wood (48) of
Cowbridge, was told by
the Recorder of Cardiff,
Judge Nicholas Cooke:
"This is a grave case of
its kind. You plucked the
depths of callous fraud."

Wood admitted more
than 50 charges involving
using a false instrument,
deception, theft and
fraud.

The offences occurred
over a period of seven
years and on one occasion,
Wood even stole his
father's life savings.

Prosecutor Roger
Griffiths said Woods had

operated as a financial
adviser in the Cardiff and
Bridgend areas.

The court heard that
on one occasion, he stole
his father's life savings
of £30,000 and took out a
mortgage on his father's
house for £135,000 by
pretending his father was
earning £45,000 a year,
but he was in fact retired.

Many investors, said
Mr Griffiths, were falsely
told that investments
were doing well and
Woods produced false
documents which he
"had doctored".

He added that a sick
child's trust fund was
defrauded, as were three
widows.

Also victims were a
man who had invested
his compensation for a
back injury, as was his
elderly mother, who suffered
dementia.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 7)



ABOVE (Left to right):
Corey Bridgeman, Natasja Bryant and Joe Wiltshire-Smith.

Porthcawl drama students called up for National Youth Theatre

THREE pupils from
Porthcawl Comprehensive
School will be spending part
of their summer holidays with
the National Youth Theatre of
Wales.

Corey Bridgeman, Natasja Bryant
and Joe Wiltshire-Smith were picked
from hundreds of hopefuls after auditions,
and will spend two weeks in
Aberystwyth before spending the third
week taking a production on tour.

The young company will start com-

pletely from scratch, devising the performance
in the two-week rehearsal
period, before performing it in
Aberystwyth.

The show then moves on to a north
Wales venue, before its big finish at
the Richard Burton Theatre, which is
part of the Welsh College of Music
and Drama in Cardiff.

The three are all members of the
Bridgend Youth Theatre, which is currently
rehearsing for its summer production
of *The King and I*.

Porthcawl Civic Trust tries again!

THE vexed issue of Porthcawl regeneration was raised again this
week when the Porthcawl Civic Trust tried once again to get BCBC
to release more details on the scheme.

(SEE PAGE 29 FOR A FULL REPORT).

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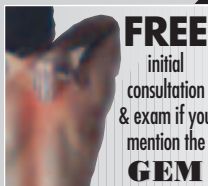
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'LET'S TAKE IT FROM THE TOP, LADS!'

Choir starts countdown to a very busy month!

A SUCCESSFUL concert at St Peter Church, Newton, Swansea, last weekend leads Bridgend Male Choir into its final month of major 2011 engagements.

Friday, June 3, at 7pm sees the choir perform at Haberdasher's School for Girls in Monmouth, in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund, and it will be accompanied by the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers.

The choir is delighted to have been invited to return to Monmouth on a number of occasions to assist this excellent support of servicemen. Tickets are available at the venue prior to the start.

On Saturday, June 4, the choir is back home at the historic, open air

Coity Castle venue. 'Choirs in the Castle', featuring a number of soloists and choirs singing independently, has developed a reputation where choirs feel privileged to receive an invite to sing before a large enthusiastic audience, this year supporting Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

The concert starts at 6pm and Bridgend Male Choir takes the stage at 8.30pm. Concert goers are encouraged to arrive early to set up their chairs and picnic tables for the feast of choral singing to follow.

June 17 at 7pm, sees the choir return to Bethlehem Church Life Centre, Cefn Cribwr, where it has always received the warmest of welcomes.

Guests this year are the young choristers of the Maesteg Children's Choir, which is celebrating its 25th birthday.

This outstanding group of singers has received numerous invites in recent years, resulting in a growing prestigious reputation. Tickets are available from the venue; the Bridgend Choir secretary on 07773 170373 or in Maesteg from Gareth/Sian/Aimee on 01656 862037/732385/734589.

Finally, on June 23, choristers are thrilled to have been invited to sing at the official opening of the new lecture hall/theatre at Bridgend College.

All concerned with the development of this wonderful facility for study; music and the arts in the Bridgend county are to be congratulated for what they are bringing to the area.

More information on choir activities can be found on the bookings page of its website www.bridgendmalechoir.co.uk

DB

New lease of life for historic Maesteg building

by JAYNE ISAAC

ONE of the finest buildings in Maesteg Town Centre is to have a new lease of life.

Hartshorn House, which celebrated its centenary in 2010, was originally built as a shop and offices of the old Maesteg Co-operative Society.

It was revamped in the 1990s under the Valleys Initiative and now houses the Bowrington Arcade of retail units on the ground floor and there are flats on the second floor which are managed by Yellow Wales and provide accommodation for homeless young people.

However, the first floor of this large building, which stands at the corner of Neath Road and Llynfi Road, has been empty for almost nine years after previous occupants of the offices moved out.

Now, Bridgend Social Services and the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health board have joined forces to bring it back into use.

A Health and Well-Being Centre is being set up with funding provided by the Welsh government. A planning application for this change of use is currently being processed.

The new centre will bring together a large number of existing services that people living in the Llynfi Valley have to travel between various locations to access.

More than a third of all missed appointments with organisations providing care and support in Bridgend county come from residents of the valley.

This move is intended to provide a better overall service at a single, easy-to-reach site.

The new centre will provide help and support to people on a wide range of issues including domestic abuse, home-

lessness, sexual health, counselling, substance misuse and employment support.

It will also provide a venue for PACT meetings and will have meeting rooms, consultation suites and office space for organisations that include Ty Ellis, Wallich, Ogwr DASH, Job CentrePlus and the Safer Bridgend Partnership.

A centre manager will be appointed to oversee services in the building and ensure that the centre is well-maintained.

Coun Lyn Morgan, who is the cabinet member for Well Being, said that the new centre would be a huge help for local people and communities throughout the valley.

He said: "The geography of the borough sometimes means that people who live in valley areas have to travel to Bridgend or further to receive help and support for a particular problem."

"This move will consolidate the various services that are currently only available to people travelling back and forth between different locations."

"This centre will have a huge impact on the effectiveness of services which are designed to improve the health and well-being of Llynfi Valley residents."

He added that having this building in Maesteg would produce some spin-off for local shops by increasing footfall in the town, while reducing pressure on services based in Bridgend town centre.

He added: "Hartshorn House was named after Vernon Hartshorn MP, who had been the miners' agent in the valley before being elected to parliament."

"He served as post-master general in the first Labour government in 1924 under Ramsay MacDonald."

Bowrington Arcade is named after Bowrington Street which is the old name for Commercial Street. It was named after Sir John Bowring, who owned the iron works in the town.

We welcome your news and views. Get in touch with us via email: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk, on Facebook under gemnews or on Twitter - @gem_news

'Let the police get on with their jobs' - says Bridgend MP

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon is calling on constituents to make submissions to the Home Affairs Select Committee's inquiry on the Coalition Government's proposals for policing reform.

The committee recently launched its 'New Landscape of Policing' Inquiry and would like to know what the public think the police should prioritise in the future.

The MP explained: "Many constituents have contacted me with their concerns about the Coalition Government's proposals to introduce elected police commissioners and about pay and pensions."

"This inquiry is a great opportunity to contribute to the debate and I would encourage everyone to complete the online survey."

"In the past few months, I have been very fortunate to spend time with South Wales Police as part of the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme. This has enabled me to see first

hand the essential and valuable work that officers do in often challenging circumstances.

"There has been a five per cent fall in crime in Bridgend in the first half of this year, with substantial reductions in burglary - down 19 per cent and theft from vehicles - down 20 per cent."

"South Wales Police should be congratulated for these impressive figures that is a testament to the hard work of the whole force."

"They clearly demonstrate that the Coalition Government's proposals are completely unnecessary and that the Police should be left to get on with their jobs."

The committee has set-up an online survey which can be found at <http://forums.parliament.uk/policing-priorities>

poll/index.php?index,1 which runs until June 17. More information about the scope of the inquiry is available at <http://www.parliament.uk/policing-priorities>.

Spring meeting draws 600 delegates to Porthcawl

COITY WI was pleased to report another great sporting success as Pat Shepherd and Menna Morgan won the GFWI table tennis tournament 2011 (doubles).

The winners were announced at the GFWI spring meeting in Porthcawl, where Mary Poland received a certificate on their behalf.

Mary Poland successfully competed in the dominoes competition and is also going through to the next round.

The spring meeting, held on May 4 at Porthcawl, was attended by 600 delegates from the Glamorgan Federation. The Glamorgan Poppies had a high profile again, having been invited as guest speakers. They were represented by Sally Mabey, Jean Smith and Mary Poland, who gave an entertaining insight into their experience of appearing on the television show Eggheads, in which they were winners.

Also addressing the meeting was Chris Johns, director of Oxfam Wales, who thanked the WI for their

NEWS FROM THE COITY WI

contribution to the 'Women Making a Difference' campaign.

The afternoon guest speaker was the High Sheriff of Glamorgan, the talented Welsh singer, Beverley Humphries, who delighted the audience with anecdotes illustrating her theme of 'Love, laughter and music,' all of which, she suggested, are essential to happiness.

Some members were able to experience the value of music for themselves when they attended the 'Anyone can Sing' day at Neath Port Talbot College. It was a most interesting experience, with practical exercises preparing us for singing four-part songs, culminating in a mini-concert on-stage.

WIs from across the federation met at Cowbridge Lesser Hall this month, to view the floral and co-operative designs in preparation for the Rosebowl and Brecon Cup. The winners will go forward to the Royal Welsh Show.

At Coity, the craft classes continue, this month led most ably by Karen Jones who taught members how to make our own beads.

ES

Leap for Malawi

THE Bridgend-based Fairwood Trust, has funded a new initiative that works with young people from disadvantaged areas of south Wales and Malawi, and encourages them to take social action in their community.

The Trust was established by Charles Middleton, who used to managed Bridgend-based TSW, and has provided A Leap with £25,000 towards funding the training project.

A Leap's local partner in Malawi, AYISE, will also deliver a parallel programme with a group of young people in Blantyre, located in southern Malawi.

The two groups will share their discussions, experiences and actions using online media, and then participate in reciprocal exchanges in both countries.

Charles, previously CEO of Training Service Wales (TSW), said: "This is the first international project that Fairwood Trust has been involved with and we're very excited to be a part of it."

The meeting starts at 7.30pm and new members will be very welcome.

Late sailing!

GLAD I'm not a member of the V A Newman Quiz League - I don't want to appear pedantic (though I have a tendency in that direction).

On the first question in the recent Quiz League Posers; in fact, the Endurance sailed from Plymouth in August (not March) and it was a Trans-Antarctic expedition (not Transatlantic). (Name and address supplied)

CARERS' WEEK GARDEN PARTY

TO CELEBRATE Carers' Week June 13 - 17 Crossroads Care (Bridgend County) are having a garden party in Nottage Village, Porthcawl on Friday June 17 at 10.30 a.m. (phone 01656 784100 for details).

It is open to everyone; Books, cakes, plants, bric a brac, raffle, plus the '100 Club' draw with cash prizes. Tickets £1 from the office or on the door.

Later in the year there is a sponsored walk/fun

run on September 10, 10.30am, at the Hi Tide and then along the Promenade in Porthcawl.

The Bridgend Carers Centre have arranged other events at their new office premises on

87 Park Street (the Quaker Meeting House), CF31 3AZ.

Telephone 01656 658479 for more information on events or planned trips over the next three months).

Other events: June 14 - Macmillan Pamper Day, 10.30am - 1pm. June 15 - Carers Week Fayre.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL JUNE 9)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
02 Thur	08.29	9.2	20.39	9.3
03 Fri	09.07	9.3	21.25	9.4
04 Sat	09.41	9.3	22.02	9.4
05 Sun	10.21	9.2	22.39	9.3
06 Mon	11.11	9.1	23.24	9.1
07 Tues	11.55	8.9		
08 Wed	00.17	8.9	12.47	8.6
09 Thur	01.10	8.7	13.48	8.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

MAYORAL CHAINS OF OFFICE HANDED OVER IN BOROUGH

The new Bridgend Mayor is no stranger to civic duties!

A WOMAN who served as consort to her husband when he was mayor of Bridgend two years ago, is now occupying the hot seat herself.

Clare Lewis has been installed as mayor in her own right and this time the boot will be on the other foot – with her husband Mervyn acting as her consort!

Clare came onto the town council when a vacancy occurred two years ago, although Mervyn was elected in 2006 at a by-election.

The couple, who are both Conservative councillors, enjoy politics and both have stood for election in the past.

Clare is a Bridgend girl and was brought up in Moorlands Road. She was educated in Oldcastle Primary, Brynteg Comprehensive and Bridgend College, where she qualified as an electrical engineer gaining her ONC, HNC and HND qualifications.

She currently works as an engineer for Atkins and travels all over the region from her base in Bristol.

Mervyn is a well-known local photographer, working for the iconic Bridgend firm of Ernest Carver before setting up his own Ashwood Photography business.

He has now retired from this because of health problems.

The couple met through photography when Clare was a cub leader and had organised a charity barbecue which was attended by Mervyn, who was doing pictures for the local paper.

And the rest is history, as they say.

The couple have two grown-up daughters. Jennifer, 25, lives in Bridgend and works as a marketing director for the Welsh comparison site Go Compare.

Stacey, 23, is a nurse in the intensive care unit at Bristol Children's Hospital.

The couple are keenly interested in local affairs and Clare hopes as mayor to lend her support to various organisations and good causes.



The new Mayor of Bridgend Town, Coun Clare Lewis (left) with retiring mayor Coun Barbara Parish.

She will be holding her Civic Sunday in July at Noltan Church – where she was confirmed and attended Sunday School.

Clare was installed by outgoing mayor Barbara Parish, who told the annual meeting of the council that she had really enjoyed her year as mayor.

"I feel privileged to have represented the people of Bridgend as their mayor," she said.

She thanked council clerk Carol James and deputy clerk Hannah Lewis and also Rebecca Evans who stood in while Carol and Hannah were both away – one on sick leave and the other on maternity leave.

She said that one of the highlights of her year was attending the 'Elfstedtdof' when Bridgend broke the world record for the number of elves gathered in one place at one time.

She also referred to the recent ceremony which granted the freedom of the borough to the Welsh Guards.

Coun Parish also thanked Clare Lewis for her support as deputy mayor, and former mayor Mervyn Lewis, who also stepped in when neither of them was available.

A vote of thanks to Coun Parish was proposed by Bridgend Conservative leader David Unwin, who said that she had carried out her duties admirably, supported by her son and daughter who acted as her consorts.

There were two contenders for deputy mayor – Labour's Haydn Morgan, who was proposed by Coun Edith Hughes, and Liberal Democrat Roger Marsh, who was proposed by Coun Peter Foley.

In the voting, Coun Marsh polled nine votes and Coun Morgan had four.

Coun Marsh was then installed as deputy mayor. JAYNE ISAAC

Porthcawl's new mayor is a former English teacher

THE new mayor of Porthcawl is a former Rhondda girl who moved to the town almost three decades ago.

Barbara Stubbs was brought up in Trealaw and attended Porth County Grammar School, before gaining a degree in English at Cardiff University.

After marriage to husband Bill, who was also brought up in the Rhondda, the couple made their home in Tonypandy for more than 20 years.

At this time, Barbara was teaching locally and rose to become head of English and later deputy head of Cymmer Comprehensive in the valley.

The school was later converted into a Welsh medium establishment and Barbara became head of English at Bryntirion Comprehensive in Bridgend.

Her parents had already moved to Porthcawl and the couple decided to follow suit.

"We love Porthcawl, as did my parents," she said. My father was a fundraiser for Dr Barnardo's and had got to know Sir Lesley Joseph and his family, who were big supporters of the charity.

"My parents lived here for some time before we decided to join them, and we have both been very happy here. It's a great town."

Barbara has now retired from teaching, although she is still an examiner for the Welsh Joint Education Committee for GCSE English.

However, she has given this up tem-

porarily to fulfil her duties as deputy mayor last year and while she is mayor this year. Bill, who was a mechanical engineer, has also retired from his job at the Royal Mint. The couple are both active locally.

Bill is president of Rotary this year while Barbara is a member of Inner Wheel. She is also a member of the Barnardo's Helpers League in Porthcawl.

The couple have one son Mark, who studied physics in Oxford and now lives with his wife in Sheffield.

Barbara has been interested in politics and local government for some years, but her main aim in becoming a Conservative member of the town council in 2008 was to do things for Porthcawl.

She said: "We both want to work for the town and to make things better for local people."

"That's what I want to promote during my year as mayor. I am very committed to this community."

She is looking forward to her year as mayor and intends to meet as many local people as possible.

She added: "We also want to support as many local organisations as we can. Porthcawl is a very active town with lots going on and as mayor, I hope to play a leading role over the next year."

Barbara was installed by outgoing mayor Mary Emmment Lewis. The new deputy mayor is Labour's Alana Davies, who was mayor in 2008.

JAYNE ISAAC



ABOVE: Porthcawl's new mayor, Coun Barbara Stubbs, is sworn in at Porthcawl Town Council. (Photograph by Keith E Morgan).

'Different dates' set for Trecco Bay caravans

PLANNING consent has been granted for the caravans at Trecco Bay to be occupied between different dates.

Until now, the caravans have had to be vacated on December 31 and not re-occupied until February 1.

The application, from site owners Parkdean Holiday Parks Ltd, was to vary those dates so that people could stay in their caravans over the new year.

From now on, caravans will have to be vacated by January 4 and not re-occupied until February 4. This means that the 11-month residency period remains the same.

A number of local

residents objected on the grounds that any extension of the occupancy would be detrimental to the area but planning officers have pointed out that the overall residency period remains the same but between two different dates.

This means that the requirement that caravans are vacated for one month a year remains in force and ensures that caravans continue to provide temporary residential accommodation.

It will also help promote Porthcawl as a holiday destination over the new year period when the town is short of accommodation. This accords with the council's tourism strategy.

Bridgend's day for the Armed Forces

ARMED Forces Day on June 25 will be marked in Bridgend with a service and parade in the town, followed by a concert.

The parade will start to assemble from 11am on the road between the Recreation Centre and the YMCA.

It will set off at 11.30am, led by the Corps of Drums of the Welsh Support Regiment of the Royal Logistics Corps.

The Lewis Merthyr Band will play at the war memorial in Dunraven Place from 11.30am and the service will commence at 12 noon.

The padre will be Rev Dr J. Barrie Williams,

who will lead the prayers and hymns. Major Wayne Morgan MBE will be the officer commanding the parade.

The parade will return to Bridgend Recreation centre at 12.30pm, where a ticket-only concert and buffet will be laid on.

Cor Yr Hen Blwyf of Maesteg will provide entertainment during the buffet and the concert will feature children from Maes yr Haul and Bryntirion primaries, plus soloists.

The Lewis Merthyr Band and the corps of drums will also take part, and the compere will be Tony Mullins, also of Maesteg.

Woman glassed her boyfriend 'by accident'

A WOMAN has been cleared at Cardiff Crown Court of allegations that she deliberately attacked her boyfriend, striking him to the side of his face with a glass in a pub.

After retiring for an hour, a jury found Sarah Barrell (36), of Kenfig Hill, a woman with no previous convictions, not guilty of wounding

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

Stuart Rees.

She told the jury she did not intend striking him with the glass. Earlier, she said, he had poured a glass of beer over her, and had also thrown a beer can and a kebab skewer at her.

Prosecutor John Ryan said the couple had been in a relationship and still were.

Last August, they

went to a barbecue where they argued and later went to a pub, where the argument continued.

After Rees threw the beer over her, she reacted by striking him to the side of the face, causing cuts which needed more than seven stitches and which left a permanent scar.

Mr Rees said in evidence that at the barbecue he had six pints of cider and Barrell had a bottle of wine.

"We had had a rough patch, and we argued."

In the pub, he said, at one point he took hold of her and threw a pint over her.

"She turned and slapped me. I believe she forgot she was holding a glass, and I believe it was an accident."

She told the jury she had tried to get away from Mr Rees in the pub, and then struck him with what she believed was her hand, unaware she still had the glass.

Lions say thank you

THE Porthcawl Lions would like to thank all those members of the public who attended the Lions' coffee morning on Friday May 27.

The Lions were raising funds for local handicapped young people to attend the annual Bob Cook games.

Over £200 was raised and the main organiser for the Lions, Gloria Ward commented:

"This is a great result for the Lions, who will now be able to arrange transport etc for these young people to enjoy themselves at the games."

"Last year, the young people came back to Porthcawl with smiles on their faces and many medals." David Richards (Porthcawl Lions Club)

CADS' COMEDY

CADS' 2001 summer production, *Temporary Shelter* by award winning novelist Rose Tremain, was originally written for radio and the comedy won the Giles Cooper Award for the best radio play of 1984.

Set in a French campsite near Avignon, the play tells the story of what happens when failed businessman, Larry, meets Trist, a failed Shakespearean actor and would-be writer.

It has been adapted for the stage by Peter Sain ley Berry from Cowbridge and stars Lloyd Lee. It will run from July 13-16 at the Market Theatre, at 7.30pm.

Telephone 01446 773874 for further details.

The past comes to life at Maesteg park picnic

ROUNDHEADS and cavaliers will be making their first appearance in the Llynfi Valley since Cromwell marched through Glamorgan after the battle of St Fagan's in the 1640s.

At that time, the roundheads, who supported parliament, were reputed to have stayed in the old Nantycrynydd Farmhouse, which was demolished in the 1980s by the former Ogwr Borough Council, to make way for Maesteg Sports Centre.

The protagonists in the English Civil War will be making an appearance, courtesy of the Marcher Stuarts living history and military group, who

will be re-enacting some of the momentous events of that war and invoking the era of Cromwell, Charles I and the dashing Prince Rupert of the Rhine, who commanded the king's cavalry.

They have been invited to take part in a 'Picnic at the Parc' – the park in question being Parc Tir Iarl at Cwmfelin on Saturday, June 25, from 12 noon to 4pm.

The event has been laid on by Llangynydd Middle Community Council. Other attractions include Irish dancing, the Ogmere Valley Silver Band, Mystic Magic, refreshments and stalls. Admission is free.

Visitors are urged to leave their cars at home because parking is limited, and bring along a picnic!

Share your local news with us!

We welcome your news, views, and other items of local interest.

Get in touch with us via email to: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk on Facebook under gemnews, or on Twitter - @gem_news

TOP FUNDRAISER DAVID IN THE SWIM(mafun) FOR LIONS' CHARITY!



Bridgend Lions Club president Phillip Davies is pictured with David Garrod.

BRIDGEND Lions Club's annual charity swim gala has been held in the borough for as long as any of the club's older members can recall.

Teams comprising enthusiastic sponsored swimmers raise money for their community groups to help them to fund specific projects or their day-to-day running expenses.

The 'Swimmafuns', as it's now known, is very successful and it has raised more than £150,000 for the benefit of the borough's causes and these groups.

Held recently at Ynysawdre Pool, the Swimmafuns had many entries from schools, sports groups and guides and brownies. Local disability groups were also well represented at the gala.

Swimming for one such group, Penybont Gateway, a club for those with learning disabilities or difficulties, was their member David Garrod who is a regular entrant.

David, who works at Sainsbury's, Bridgend, is well known as a keen charity fundraiser.

He has been the event's top individual sponsorship earner ever since he first took part.

The Lions Club reckons that he has personally raised at least £10,000 in the last five years to help towards the Gateway Club's much-needed funds and to contribute towards local causes supported by the Lions Club of Bridgend.

In recognition of his valuable fundraising efforts and support, Lions Club president, Phillip Davies, took the opportunity to thank David and his sponsors and to present him with a certificate of achievement for that day's success in the pool.

Information about Bridgend Lions' swim gala, its other activities and club membership is available on the club's web site www.bridgendlions.org.uk

DAVID JONES

Choir sings for Marie Curie



The Arms Park Choir.

No pollution, it's just algae on the beach

REPORTS of sewage and oil affecting beaches (including Porthcawl), are mistaken, says Environment Agency Wales.

The culprit is in fact algae.

"Over the last few weeks, officers have received reports from beaches between Porthcawl and Aberavon as far west as Tenby. Algae has also been seen in north Wales near Aberdyfi, the Mawddach Estuary and the Menai Strait," a spokesperson confirmed.

Officers collected samples and analysis found that the species of algae were

Caetoceros and Phaeocystis.

"The recent warm weather, coupled with nutrients in the water, has caused foam to appear on the surface of the sea.

"In other cases, the algae has, died causing a brown, lumpy material to be deposited on the beach.

"The algae is not dangerous but could cause a mild skin irritation if people come into contact with it.

"It should not be swallowed and actions should be taken to avoid any contact with algae" one spokesperson warned.

"With more warm weather forecast over the summer, the agency is expecting more outbreaks of algae on the coast.

"Water quality at bathing water beaches is better than ever and we want to make it clear that these slicks are not pollution."

Any slicks which may not be algae should be reported to Environment Agency Wales' free 24-hour hotline on 0800 807060.

ON Friday, May 20, a very successful charity concert was held at the church and community hall, Peterston-super-Ely.

It was given by the Cardiff Arms Park Male Voice choir, which travels far and wide supporting different charities, with Joe Scullan as pianist and David Last as musical director. The impres-

sive sum of £1,036 was raised during the evening for the Marie Curie hospice, Penarth.

In September, a team of 40, including medical staff from different locations, are trekking the Great Wall of China for the same charity.

Anyone wishing to sponsor this very worthwhile cause, contact Terrence Howard Jones on 01446 760549.

PORTHCAWL NEWS in brief

THE outgoing mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emmett Lewis, was presented with a cheque for £5,688 from the Porthcawl Civic Fund, which organises fund raising during each mayor's year of office.

The money will be distributed between Coun Emmett Lewis' chosen charities. Those present at the ceremony in the Porthcawl Council chamber were Glan Davies, John Berry and Doreen Owen. They were thanked on behalf of the council by Mrs Emmett Lewis.

KERRY MARLOW of the Porthcawl Athletic Association is to attend a future meeting of Porthcawl Town

Council to give members an update about progress on the Lock's Lane scheme.

PORTHCAWL Town Council has given £250 to the jazz festival and a further £250 to the Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion.

PORTHCAWL Clych Meithrin is hoping to hold a fun day on Nottage Green on Saturday, July 16.

The Cylch runs a bi-lingual pre-school playgroup for children aged from two years to five, which takes place in Tabernacle Chapel hall in Fenton Place.

The event at Nottage gets under way at 12.30pm and will run until 5pm. Its aim is to raise the profile of the group, which helps to teach Welsh to children from non-Welsh speaking homes.

STAR-STUDDED SHOW

THE Cowbridge committee, which is raising funds to support the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale, is staging a star-studded classical concert on Thursday, June 9

Wynne Evans, who has shot to fame as TV's most annoying tenor, Gio Campario, will host a star-studded evening at the Bradenstoke Hall, St Donats.

His guests will be West End star

Shan Cothi, opera singer Mark Evans, former Royal harpist Catrin Finch and accompanist Jeffrey Howard.

A spokeswoman for the committee said: "Young artists from the Vale will also be performing.

"This is an evening not to be missed and the few remaining tickets are available from Davies' Newsagents, Cowbridge.

"All proceeds will go towards the National Eisteddfod of Wales in the Vale 2012."

Who wants to build what and where in the county borough?

South Wales Police RFC - extension to side elevation and external ramp access.

Waterson Sports Club site, Bridgend - Retain advertising hoarding on existing sports stand.

Mrs Susan Evans - 42 High Street, Pontycymmer - Conservatory to rear of property.

Mr Karl Williams - 1 Bryn Gorsedd, Litchard - Proposed rear porch.

Mr David Flay - 149 Caerau Road, Maesteg - Shower extension for disabled person.

Ms W Rudd - 23A Cefn Road, Cefn Cribwr - Provide additional bedrooms by raising roof height of existing bungalow.

Mr M Weaver - 12 Plas Tynawr, Penyfa - Alteration to existing loft conversion, removing two velux windows and construct two pitched roof dormers.

Mr and Mrs E Walters - 18 Adare Street, Evanstown, Porth - Provide lifting platform to front elevation of property to assist disabled person residing at property.

Mr and Mrs K Hamer - 105 Ystrad Fawr, Bridgend - Ground floor shower room

extension to side elevation and external ramp access.

Mrs M Peters - Brynawel House, 5 Pen y Bryn Terrace, Brynmenyn - Loft conversion with rear dormer, first floor ext over existing kitchen, ext to kitchen to inc outhouses.

Mr A Goth - 6 Bryn Dryslwyn, Broadlands - Single storey rear extension.

Mr B Edwards - 6 Bro Dirion, Broadlands - Single storey extension to house.

Propdev UK Ltd - 17B New Road, Porthcawl - Change of use to A3.

Miss C L Evans - 18 Rathbone Terrace, Maesteg - Single extension to rear elevation.

Mr A Canton - Cross Winds, Stormy Down - Single storey extension to dwelling.

Mrs Barbara Barrett - 40 Pysgah Street, Kenfig Hill - single storey double garage at rear of garden.

Valleys to Coast Housing Ltd - Lake View Sheltered Housing, Lake View Close, Porthcawl - Improvement and extensions to existing residential care.

Mr Richard Hayter - 91

Wenny Road, Bridgend - Single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling.

Mr Steve Thomas - Vacant plot, Federation Lane, Pontycymmer - Detached five bedroom house.

Mr David Pike - Swyn Deryn, Coytrahen - Dormers to front and rear, demolish lean-to and construct new to side, new outbuilding and hardstanding.

Mrs Nigel Jones - Greenmeadow House, Water Street, Ogmere Vale - single storey side extension, for garage and utility room, conservatory and garden shed to front.

Bridgend CBC - Hartshorn House, Neath Road, Maesteg - Alter existing first floor to provide health care provision - change of use from Class B1 to D1.

HD Ltd - Cae Court, 12 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend - Remove a sycamore tree within Merthyr Mawr Road conservation area.

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg NHS - New surgery, land off Penprysg Road/Min y Nant, Pencoe - Installation of

individual letters to display surgery name on south elevation.

Mr R Webster - Former Gwalia site, Ogmere Vale - Three three-bedroom terraced dwelling units.

Mrs M John - 4 St Mary's Court, Porthcawl - Relax standard condition on P/06/566/FUL (three bed detached house) to extend period of approval.

Linc-Cymru Housing Association - 1, 5-43 (odds) Adare Street, Ogmere Vale - Apply insulation board to the exterior of the properties.

Mr and Mrs S Williams - 13 The Retreat, Porthcawl - Amendments to approval 10/912 to construct first floor extension and garage, remodel dormer and porch and refurb works.

Mr C Davies - Westerleys, Kenfig - Demolish two storey building and replace with new single storey building to garage three cars (resub of refusal P/11/46).

Mr B Terry - 41 Heol Cae Glas, Sarn - Single storey extension to rear for kitchen, internal alterations to reinstate ground floor WC, etc.

Mr Jim Bryne - Units 1 and 1A Caroline Street, Bridgend - Change of use for two A1 (use class) retail units to A3 (use class) hot food take away units.

Bridgend CBC - Ogmere Comprehensive, Heol Llan, Brynmenyn - Installation of passenger hoist for wheelchair access.

Mr Ebraheem Isa - Pizza Flame, 15 Wyndham Street, Bridgend - Vary condition 1 of appeal decision to allow opening hours Thursday to Saturday 10am - 5.30am and Sunday to Wednesday 10am - 1am.

Mr D Apsee - Unit 8 District Centre, Gentle Way, Broadlands - Change of use from A1 to A3.

Mr David Pritchard - Queens Road (North), Bridgend Industrial Estate - Demolish ext two storey offices and workshops and construct two storey offices with custody suite and parking.

South Wales Police - South Wales Police Headquarters, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend - Proposed computer support block with locker room

and storage facilities.

Mr T David - 7 Grove Road, Bridgend - Single storey and first floor rear extension.

Mr John Chilcott - 3 Vale Reach, Pencoe - First floor side extension and rear single storey extension.

Mr J Harry - 3 Aberfields View, Nantymoel - Detached garage.

Stuart Morris - 1 Pant Poeth, Broadlands - Single storey rear conservatory extension.

Mr J Deveraux - 9 Swn yr Adar, Cavendish Park, Penyfa - Replacement of existing rear conservatory with traditional extension.

Persimmon Homes Ltd - Parc Derwen, Land parcel R4-1, Coity - Reserved matters for 89 residential units and associated road landscape and parking.

Mrs M Barton - Tal y Coed, Heol y Las, Coity - Garage extension.

Mrs E C Jenkins - Redlands, 28 West Road, Porthcawl - Demolish single storey conservatory to rear and construct single storey sun room.

Mr N Hegarty - Cae Court, Merthyr Mawr Road,

Bridgend - Proposed refurbishment and extension, c/u to residential nursing home and partial demolition to Cae Court.

Mr Jeff Jones - 30 Woodstock Gardens, Pencoe - Single storey rear extension.

WHP Wilkinson Helsby - Opposite 316 New Road, Porthcawl - Proposed BT cabinet.

WHP Wilkinson Helsby - South Road s/o Kenfig Cottage, Porthcawl - Proposed BT cabinet.

Mr Paul Knott - 15 High Street, Kenfig Hill - Single storey extension to replace existing sun lounge.

Jane Coles - WTG 14 Werfa, Blaengarw - EIA screening request for potential medium wind turbine development.

Mr Simon Norris - 30 Northways, Porthcawl - Single storey extension.

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



COMMUNITY NEWS from KENFIG HILL AND PYLE

by **Richard Sims**

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Award winners

Home school task - 'My Special Place' was a competition organised by geography co-ordinator, Sian Cooper and headteacher, Mrs Standford, at the Mynydd Cynffig Infants School, last week.

An exhibition of their work, which was of a very high standard, was on display in the entrance hall at the school.

The winners, who were presented with certificates and a gift voucher by the chair and vice-chair of the governors, Mrs Greta Rogers and Mr John Hyde, were Harry Mason, class 1, Lewis Watkins, class 2, Leigh Berry, class 3, Ella-Rai Jones, class 4, Thomas Attwood, class 5, Beth O'Neill, class 6 and Kacey Carter-Clare from the Nursery.

Pyle council
DURING her outgoing address at the Pyle Community Council AGM, Coun Paula James, said that she was proud to outline some of the council's achievements during her 19 months in office, such as the six new bus shelters (three installed and three on order), the crossing on the main A48 near Cwrt Angorfa in Pyle, and the many donations given to local organisations.

In particular she mentioned the two 'Good Citizens Cups', which will be awarded each year to pupils from Cynffig Comprehensive School who contribute to the communities of Pyle and Kenfig Hill.

However, she said that her favourites were the placing of a new stone on the Cenotaph and meeting the families of the men named on it, plus the acquisition of the 'Collwyn' which will always be owned by the people of Pyle and Kenfig Hill.

Coun James ended her address by thanking a past clerk, Eileen Peakman and Coun Kay John for their help and support - but most of all, she wanted to thank Coun Allan John for being there with sound advice and a shoulder to cry on, and also to her husband Clive, for his strength, love and support.

Finally, she said that she was happy leaving the chair knowing that the council will be in the safe and capable hands of its new clerk, Harold Phillips.

Coun Kay John was then unanimously elected as the new chair of Pyle Community Council.

There were two nominations for vice-chair with Coun Luke Ellis being elected for the coming year.

With regard to the election of sub-committee members and representatives, the clerk recommended that, as this was the final year of this council and in the interest of continuity, all these should remain the same, this was accepted.

Workshop

ACTIVITIES being held by the Mental Health Matters Wales on Wednesday, June 8, in the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, include a Valley and Vale arts and crafts workshop from 2pm-3pm.

Fun day

A community Fun Day is being organised by Pyle CC on Saturday, August 6, at the Kenfig Hill RFC, to give organisations in the community the opportunity to promote themselves and raise funds for their particular cause. There will be an open meeting for representatives of local organisations in Pyle and Kenfig Hill on June 7 in the Scout and Guide Hall, Kenfig Hill at 6.30pm.

School awards

MANY congratulations to the following pupils who were nominated for impressing the staff at Mynydd Cynffig Junior School last week:

Nia David, class 1, Shauna Lewis, class 2, Holly Lewis, class 3, Rebecca Coleman, class 4, Connor McCarthy, class 5, Lewis Panniers, class 6 and Callum from class 7. The headteacher's award went to Emily Walters.

Morfa Bay - Pupils from year-6 had an enjoyable week of activities recently at the Morfa Bay Adventure Centre.

It gave pupils a chance to learn team building, gain confidence and work as a team. Mr Price, Mrs John, Miss Morgan and Miss Brace not only gave up their time to make the week a success, but also took part in many of the activities with the children.

Road Safety Quiz - The road safety quiz team from year-5 entered the preliminary round of the Road Safety Quiz competition, organised by the South Wales



Mynydd Cynffig pupils Lewis Watkins, Beth O'Neill, Sian Cooper (geography coordinator), Ella-Rai Jones. Front row: Harry Mason, Leigh Berry, Thomas Attwood.



Coun Luke Ellis, Coun Kay John (new chair of Pyle Community Council), Harold Phillips (new clerk to council).

Police and led in school by Miss Bevan, on May 18 in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

They competed against all the schools in the Cynffig and Porthcawl cluster on questions about the Highway Code, general knowledge and observation.

The team of Anwen Sleath, Jack Underhill, Lauren Cooper and Megan Stevens were in top form and were runners up by a small margin.

Anwen proved to be very observant in remembering a number plate that was only shown for a very short period. The team will now go on to compete in the finals against the all the winners from the rest of Bridgend.

The Iltyd Williams Cup - On May 23, the school played their long awaited semi-final against Litchard Primary School in the Bridgend Rugby Cup competition.

The school won by 36-5, with tries from Ceiran Jones (two), Lloyd Thomas, Anthony Burnell, Luke Dingle and Callum Wright. Ceiran Jones converted two tries, with Jordan Baker putting one over from near the touch line.

Inter school matches - The school basketball and rounders teams played their first matches of the season at home against Nottage.

Following a slow start by the basketball team, they were 20-8 down after two quarters, they



Pyle CC AGM - Coun Kay John (new chair) with outgoing chair, Coun Paula James.

managed to turn it around and eventually won by 32-22.

The B team also won by 12-2. The rounders teams had mixed fortunes, the A team drew with three rounders each but the B team lost by 6-4.

Well done to Callum Wright, for taking part in 'Performing Arts Cymru' at the Royal Albert Hall.

Dancing with more than a thousand others, they performed to a packed audience. They have now been invited back to perform during the 2012 Olympics.

Big Pit - Next Thursday, June 9, classes 1, 5, 6 and 7 are looking forward to visiting the Big Pit.

Church fayre
THE summer fayre at St Theodore's Church on Saturday, June 11 will be opened by Mrs Amanda Stanford, headteacher at Mynydd Cynffig Infants School and the theme will be

'Royalty'.

There will be a fancy dress competition, a bouncy castle, children's games, stalls and strawberry cream teas. Incidental music will be provided by 'The Accordion Band' and at 3pm, there will be a musical interlude by Newton Handbells.

Poppy Party
PYLE Community Council and The Talbot Community Centre is holding a charity cabaret night on Saturday, June 11, in aid of The Royal British Legion 'Poppy Appeal' in the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill.

The entertainment is provided by 'Blitz' a new vocal and comedy duo, a female vocalist known as 'Raven' and a disco. There will also be a late night bar.

For tickets, ring 07802 439679 or 07792 010043.

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM: If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Smyrna Chapel

IT is nice to hear that Smyrna chapel, Pen-y-Fai is still upholding the tradition of holding a Cymantha Ganu (tomorrow (Friday, June 3) at 7.15pm).

The singing will be conducted by Elwyn G Williams of Llanishen, Cardiff, with Peter David on the organ. There will be a variety of hymns in both Welsh and English.

Art display

TONDU and District Art Society is holding its annual summer exhibition in the Len Evans centre, Heol Persondy between June 11-14, 10am-6pm Saturday to Monday, 10am-4pm on Tuesday; admission is free and light refreshments are available.

The society, which consists of 58 members, meets at the Len Evans centre on Tuesday evenings between 7pm-9pm, has welcomed two young members, Bethan Jones and May Colbert.

Unfortunately, because of the limited space, it still has 16 people on the waiting list.

Two primary schools, Tondy and St Roberts Roman Catholic, visit both the society's winter and summer exhibitions.

Members of the society help pupils at both schools with art practice, and have been invited by the community council to judge the Christmas art competition, organised by the council for local schools.

The exhibition will consist of approximately 180 paintings and drawings, which this year have been sub-divided into three sections: 'Local scenes'; 'Transport'; and 'Flowers in miniature'.

The winners of the three competitions will be announced on June 10 when the exhibition is opened by the Mayor of Bridgend, County Borough, Coun Chris Michaelides.

Local water colour artist Peter Cronin, will judge 'Local Scenes' and 'Transport' with 'Flowers in miniature' being judged by artist Brenda Dwek of the Cowbridge Art Society, which this year is celebrating its 50th anniversary. An artist from Aberkenfig, Rose Hopkins, was a founder member.

Plants stolen
THE Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales recently purchased some plants which it hoped to put on sale at its summer fun day yesterday as examples of how to attract more wildlife to people's gardens, even a small space.

Unfortunately, these plants have been stolen from outside the office at Parc Slip nature reserve.

It is sad that a local charity has lost money, time and effort because someone thought it was ok to take something that did not belong to them.

These plants would have been displayed at fundraising events to raise money for the charity, and also educate children about wildlife.

It was a pleasure to watch children from Oldcastle Primary School, my old school, enjoying themselves at Parc Slip visitor centre, Tondy last week.

The weather was mixed but the laughter of the children as they used nets to trawl for creatures big and small in the ponds and surrounding fields was nice to hear.

The trust will be encouraging children aged between 8-12 to enjoy the facilities at Parc Slip nature reserve, Tondy on Saturday, June 11 between 10am and 12noon. For more information, phone Nicola on 01656 724100.

Two choirs

THE 'musical extravaganza' at the Aberkenfig Bible Church, Pandry Road on Friday, June 10, at 7pm, will consist of two exciting recently-

formed choirs in the area, both with enthusiastic members.

Cantorion Coety came into existence in September 2007 when a handful of experienced choristers met in Gilead Chapel, Coity, to sing in Welsh. Gradually, its repertoire expanded from the folk songs and hymns that it knew, to include more modern Welsh music.

By July 2008, the group had grown to a manageable 25 members under its renowned musical director Eira Paskin. She is also the musical director of the long-established Ogmere Valley male voice choir.

The choir is fortunate in having Chris Goldsworthy as an able accompanist.

It consists of members of both sexes, and is believed to be the only choir in the area that sings mainly in Welsh.

It has been invited to perform on the Glanfa Stage in the Millennium Centre on several occasions, and also in the Waterfront Museum, Swansea.

It has performed in the new Cardiff City library as part of the city's St David's day celebrations for the last two years.

It has also performed recently in various functions locally to raise funds for Christian Aid.

I have been to two concerts in the last few months where the choir was performing, and even though my wife and I do not speak Welsh, we have been enthralled by its performance.

Coytrahen's male voice choir (Bois Goeffre-Hen a'r Cylch) formed on August 19, 2009, has been remarkably busy

since its formation - this concert will be its 28th.

It has performed at events both in Wales and England, its most recent being at St John the Baptist parish church in Cirencester, where it performed with Cirencester Male Voice Choir to raise funds for the local cancer research charity.

The choir's musical director is Andrew Quick. He has performed at most major London venues and concert halls in Wales. He has been a musical producer with the BBC for a number of years, and has been involved with the Proms and the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. The choir's associate accompanist is local pianist Ryan Wood.

The choir rehearses at Coytrahen community centre on Wednesday evenings, where new members will be made most welcome.

Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained from all choir members plus Aubrey Evans on 07737 793027, Mr G Brace/Mr M Davies on 01656 722078/656276.

Urdd Eisteddfod

MANY congratulations to the following youngsters who not only have been chosen to represent their school, but also the county borough of Bridgend in this national event for youngsters at Swansea.

Youngsters have to compete in their schools and in area heats until chosen to take part in the Eisteddfod itself.

Ellie Davies - Ysgol Gynradd Plasnewydd; Breanna Thomas - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr; Lewis Richards - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr; Seren Medi Morse - Ysgol Gynradd Y Ferch o'r Sger; Eleanor Tittley - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr; Ioan Lloyd - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr; Aeron Davies - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr; Grace ac Elinor - Ysgol Gynradd Y Ferch o'r Sger; Elinor Williams - Ysgol Gynradd Y Ferch o'r Sger; Bethany Browning - Ysgol Uwchradd Cynffig; Harvey Rees - Ysgol Gyfun Maesteg; Rhydian Jenkins - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Nathan Isaac - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Keiran Davies - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Benjamin Isaac - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Teilo Evans - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Kate Stevens - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd; Rhydian ac Anwen - Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanguywyd.

A special mention must be made of Rhydian Jenkins, Ysgol Gyfun Llanguywyd, who is competing in three individual and one duet event.

Ogmore Life Centre hosts double event



Gruff Lewis (left) and junior winner Dan Pearson.



ABOVE (left to right): Janice Gregory AM, Coun Lyn Morgan, past Mayor Colin Teesdale and Mrs Gloria Teesdale

THERE was a double celebration recently at the Ogmore Valley Life Centre when it hosted the National Welsh Road Race Championships and officially launched a new healthy living project.

The centre, which is run by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) now has a new interactive suite – the first stage of the 'Leap4life' project and features state-of-the-art equipment.

It was opened by the past Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Colin Teesdale.

The suite provides a new way of exercising through a reaction wall, zig zag dance mats and new trixster bikes.

Coun Lyn Morgan, the BCBC cabinet member for wellbeing, said: "The aim of the interactive suite is to help the community and families develop a healthier and more active lifestyle."

"We hope that the new equipment will provide a new and inventive way of exercising, offering health and educational activities throughout the centre."

"As we are one of the only sites in Wales to host these facilities, it's extremely exciting for Ogmore Valley Life Centre and the community. It was a great to see both parents and children trying out the new facilities and taking advantage of all the demonstrations."

Audiences were treated to displays from the centre's gymnastics group, and the local judo and dance group.

CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the same weekend, the centre hosted the National Welsh Road Race Championships. Despite the weather, spectators turned out in droves to show their support for the competitors.

More than 60 riders registered for the senior and junior races and, despite a challenging course, the riders put on one of the best races the Welsh Championships has seen in years.

In a tough and closely fought race, Gruff Lewis crossed the line to take the title of Welsh Road Race Champion 2011.

In the junior race, Dan Pearson of Port Talbot Wheelers took first place.

A clearly emotional Gruff Lewis said at the finish: "I am really pleased. I didn't think I had it in me today."

"The team worked really well today, I could not be happier."

Dan Pearson said: "I am really pleased with my ride today. I managed to stay with a good group and get the win. I really liked the course and it suited me today."

The centre worked with the Ogmore Valley Wheelers Club and Ogmore Valley Primary School to host the event.

Coun Morgan said: "The Welsh Road Race Championships were a success. As a council, we were extremely excited to host the prestigious event."

"The race attracted many spectators and it was pleasing to see all the support from the community."



The Rotary stroke awareness team.

Rotarians provide free blood pressure tests for 205 residents

PORThCAWL Rotarians recently invited residents and visitors to have their blood pressure measured, and 205 people were at Trinity Church for a free test.

Of this number 21 were advised to see their GP and five were urgent referrals.

Hopefully, the Rotary Club of Porthcawl, in conjunction with the Stroke Association, have helped raise awareness of how important it is for people to have their blood pressure checked.

High blood pressure is a key risk factor for stroke, which can strike at any age, and is one of the top three causes of death and the single largest cause of disability.

The Rotarians are extremely grateful to all the volunteers who worked throughout



Jayne James, BBC TV newsreader, under scrutiny.

the day, especially the health care professionals who gave their time so freely.

For further information about stroke and the Stroke Association please visit www.stroke.org.uk

CC

School meals opt-out queried

BRIDGEND'S Audit Committee has asked Hilary Anthony, the corporate director for Children, to report on why three schools have opted out of the schools' catering service.

Maesteg, Porthcawl and Pencoe Comprehensive Schools do not use the council's in-house catering service to provide school meals for their pupils.

The audit committee asked in March for a report but were told at their May meeting that this report was still outstanding and it was agreed to remind the department concerned.



ABOVE: Drumming up customers!



ABOVE: High blood pressure is a risk factor in strokes, so it is advisable to have a check.

Step Aboard Paddle Steamer Waverley for a Great Day Out!

sailing from **PORThCAWL** Harbour

Visit ILFRACOMBE - Glorious Devon

SUNDAY JUNE 5 Leave 9.15am back 8pm
 MONDAY JULY 4 Leave 11am back 7.30pm
 WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 11am back 7.30pm
 MONDAY AUGUST 22 Leave 10am back 8pm
 TUESDAY AUGUST 30 Leave 10am back 7pm
 MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5 Leave 10am back 8pm

Cruise in comfort and style to the Devon Coast and enjoy the afternoon in Ilfracombe E29. On Aug 17, 22, 30 & Sep 5 cruise the Exmoor Coast for only £233 *Coach Return from Seaside

LYNNMOUTH - LYNTON & BARNSTAPLE Railway

SUNDAY JUNE 5 Leave 9.15am back 8pm
 Enjoy a visit to Lynton - the Switzerland of England then take a trip aboard the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway in North Devon - a picturesque narrow gauge railway £39

Explore LUNDY ISLAND

SUNDAY JUNE 5 Leave 9.15am back 8pm
 Visit the National Trust Island of Lundy. Explore this enchanting island with spectacular views - seabirds - Church of St. Helena & Marisco Tavern £41

SHORT TRIP - BRITON FERRY

MONDAY JULY 4 Leave 7.30pm
 WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 7.30pm
 Step Aboard Balmoral for an evening cruise to Briton Ferry £13

WATERMOUTH CASTLE

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 11am back 7.30pm
 MONDAY AUGUST 22 Leave 10am back 8pm
 TUESDAY AUGUST 30 Leave 10am back 7pm
 Sail to Ilfracombe to visit Watermouth Castle, a theme park amid spectacular scenery of Devon Coast. A fun filled family day out for only £37 *Coach Return from Seaside

Onboard: RESTAURANT • LOUNGES • SHOP

Welcome Aboard the famous Paddle Steamer WAVERLEY! Sail away on an enchanting & exciting cruise. On-board - stroll round the promenade sea decks, enjoy a meal or snack in the self-service restaurant, relax in the restored period lounges & bars - see the mighty engines at work towing the famous paddle!

CHILDREN: Under 18 HALF FARE Under 5 FREE

SALES: Add it. If you are a UK taxpayer then the Charity can claim credits 20% from the "Tax relief to help preserve these ships" (2011 Co. 41) (Charities 21.94c)

TO BOOK Call 0845 130 4647 or Book Online www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk

'You plumbed the depths of callous fraud' – Judge

Local man stole from his vulnerable clients

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

A school friend of Wood was also a victim and he, too, lost his life savings.

The judge said he had to sentence Wood for a seven-year course of conduct which caused "heartache, devastation and financial ruin to persons who trusted him."

For many years Wood had enjoyed a "comfortable lifestyle" – all the time covering up his wrongdoing.

The judge added: "No sentence can undo the harm you have done."

He said he was also aware of the dreadful effects of the offences on Wood's own family.

The judge added: "You stooped so low as to steal from and defraud your own father."

There was, said the judge, "callous exploitation".

Wood's solicitor David Campbell said people had invested their money, which many had had through misfortune, and were particularly vulnerable.

But many who had invested did not lose.

"The effect on his family's life has been catastrophic. He has separated from his wife, and his house has been repossessed.

"He has lost everything and his career has gone. There is shame and remorse and he has experienced many nightmares."

Mr Campbell said that Wood had been honest and co-operated in the police investigation and his guilty pleas reflected his genuine remorse.

"His losses are substantial. He has lost the

respect and love of those closest to him and this will remain for the rest of his life."

Mr Campbell said he didn't seek to minimise the suffering Wood had caused to many people.

He said that in the 1990s, Wood's business had been under financial pressure.

But in the community he was regarded as successful and was well liked.

"He had a very comfortable lifestyle which was funded by dishonesty and he could not admit to clients, friends,



ABOVE: David Wood, who now faces a seven-year jail sentence

his wife and family that he was not successful."

Wood was said to have no previous convictions and Mr Griffiths said the prosecution costs had totalled £10,000.

CARDIFF BAY VISIT AFTER having to cancel the trip twice due to the weather, year-5 finally made it to Cardiff Bay.

Although the weather wasn't exactly good, the children had a packed day to look forward too.

First on the agenda was a visit to the Senedd led by Mr Richard Jones. The children were shown around the debating chamber and met MPs Peter Black (Liberal Democrat) and Susie Davies (Conservative).

This was followed by a trip across the bay on the Water Bus, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Unfortunately, the children were not able to conduct their surveys due to the fact that it was raining and there were not many people around to ask!

We then walked across to the life boat café where the children were able to buy an ice cream.

For the last hour of the trip we visited the Pierhead building, where the children all watched a short film on Cardiff Bay.

RESERVE VISIT

ON a rather wet and windy Wednesday last week, year-3 children visited Kenfig Nature Reserve.

Accompanied by ranger Graham, the children went on a nature walk and had the opportunity to catch and identify some of the wide variety of insects.

After lunch, the children were able to go pond dipping in Kenfig pool, which the children all really enjoyed.

Ntazana Mayembe (3S) reported: "I found Kenfig Nature Reserve interesting because the well has lots of history, and because we went to the pond. I got soaking wet and year-3 had fun and I learnt a lot!"

TENNIS

LAST Thursday, a team of year-5 and 6 children played in a tennis tournament at the Recreation Centre.

Five schools competed against each other. Despite playing extremely well, only Reece Newman 5M won his match 10-2.

Report by Reece Newman and Ammon Radcliffe 5M. WELL DONE! Congratulations to Nadine Johnstone 2P on passing her 8th Kup Yellow Belt Tae Kwon-Do.

Well done also to Grace Thompson

News in and out of class at Litchard Primary School

(Reception Mrs Butler) on making her Rainbow Promise and Leo Manley also from Mrs Butler's class on achieving his Duckling 1 and 2 swimming award.

Exam pass WELL done to Megan Howe 5M on passing her Grade 1 practical piano exam recently.

TESCO AND SAINSBURY VOUCHERS THANK you to everyone for sending into school the vouchers for Tesco and Sainsbury.

As we would like to place our order as soon as possible, it would be appreciated if any remaining vouchers be sent into school by Friday, June 10.

PARKING PLEA!

PLEASE be considerate of the local residents when parking outside the school, by not parking on the yellow zigzag lines, or blocking drive ways.

Due to complaints from local residents the police will be monitoring the situation.

For health and safety reasons, please do not bring vehicles onto school premises without permission.

Thank you. It is the safety of children and adults that is important.

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to Scott Pope, Will Prosser and Jacob Lewis who played for the Bridgend District under-11s football teams earlier this week.

Well done boys.

CRICKET

THE cricket season has started and a squad of 20 players will be taking part in a 'Kwick Cricket' tournament in Newbridge Fields on the first Monday after half term.

This is a game for girls and boys and everyone can enjoy the fun. We also hear that Mrs Stenner from one of the ICC will be coming in to help coach 'Kwick Cricket' after half-term. We are very grateful for this offer.

RUGBY

OUR rugby team lost out in the semi-final of the District Cup.

Although they lost the game we have had very positive reports about their behaviour attitude and determination. Well done boys.

Also congratulations to Harry Hopkins on representing West Wales under-11s for the second time in a successful victory against North Wales.

INTERNET DANGERS!

IT has been brought to our attention that a

number of families are experiencing a lot of problems arising from social networking sites and gaming sites such as 'X Box'.

The internet can be a fantastic source of information but it can also host some very inappropriate material.

Our advice is that no child should have unrestricted access to the internet and that no one should post unpleasant messages about others.

It only leads to tears and people being upset. Think before you surf!

CROSS-COUNTRY MANY congratulations to Benji Edwards who won the last county cross country race.

I believe that Benji has won every race this year except one where he was tripped and fell over.

Even then he managed to come second. Well done Benji.

Well done also to a few of our Mums from the Fab Abb team who did a 5k run and raised £800!

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Mrs Cronin on the birth of her son Rhydian, who weighed in at an impressive 9lb 9oz. Both mother and baby are doing well.

STRANGER WARNING! Remember to tell the children NOT TO GO WITH STRANGERS.

There have been several unsubstantiated rumours over recent days but it still serves as a warning.

VA NEWMAN QUIZ LEAGUE POSERS

HERE are your four teasers:-

1) Which Puccini opera features the characters Ping, Pong and Pang?

2) What name is given to the region of immense gravitational pull around a massive collapsed star from which not even light can escape?

3) Which Welsh born jockey had his first classic win in the 1969 2000 Guineas on Right Tack but will always be remembered for his association with the great Mill Reef?

4) The tail-bone is another name for which part of the human body?

4. Ans. Coccyx.
3. Ans. Geoff Lewis.
2. Ans. Black Hole.
1. Ans. Turandot.

Council Leader replies to scrutiny chair criticisms

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

She said that the Conservative and Liberal Democrats have 12 seats on the council. Two other non-aligned Independents – Peter Evans and Mel Winter – are also unrepresented.

"We have 14 seats between us but not one chair. The Annibynwyr, with 11 seats, have four out of the five scrutiny chairs – and the chair of audit."

"The other chair available has gone each year to Bob Burns, who has a group of three."

Coun Green said that in the days of the Rainbow Alliance, her members did not vote and it was left to Labour and the non-aligned independents to choose the scrutiny chairs.

"What's happening in Bridgend goes against the ethos of fair play. We have more seats as a former Rainbow Alliance than the Annibynwyr, but no chairs," she protested.

Coun Pat Hacking said that she felt what was happening was anti-democratic.

"What's happened is that they have now effectively excluded the Conservative and Liberal Democrat members of the council from being

able to function as an opposition.

"We know nothing about what's going on. As scrutiny chairs, we attended meetings with officers, but now we are backbenchers with no knowledge of what's happening."

Coun Hacking conceded that not all Labour members voted and a number had abstained, but others took part in the voting, which resulted in skewing the outcome.

The Leader of BCBC, Coun Mel Nott, responded: "This cabinet has taken a decision not to vote when electing a scrutiny chair."

"However, we respect the constitutional right of all other members to make their own decision on whether to and how to vote. They do so based on who they feel is the best and most appropriate person for this important role."

"It is important to stress that no Labour members, including cabinet members will nominate a chair; it is down to the opposition parties' leadership to agree who should be put forward."

"The constitution is quite clear that scrutiny chairs are taken from opposition groups. Over

the course of this administration the chairs of scrutiny have sometimes changed, and the majority of chairs currently come from the largest opposition party, Independent.

"Plaid Cymru and the Democratic Independent are also represented. While this may be disappointing for other parties, this is democracy."

"I don't think it's especially productive to refer to how previous administrations have chosen to operate, as we are some years on now."

"However, I do recall that a Rainbow Alliance cabinet member voted against a Labour scrutiny chair – a decision which was disappointing for my own party, but one which we had to accept."

"I place great value in the scrutiny process and believe the members of each committee will continue to engage in the robust and mature political debate which they are known for, regardless of who sits in the chair."

• The distribution of scrutiny chairs, which of course come with the bonus of an extra special responsibility payment of £9,708, has been a thorny issue in other councils.

Ironically, while the Conservatives clearly feel that they have lost out on scrutiny chairs in BCBC, the situation in the neighbouring Vale Council is reversed.

In the Vale, the Conservative-controlled council has abandoned the convention of letting opposition councillors take scrutiny chairs (if such a convention ever existed).

Instead, Conservatives have taken three out of five scrutiny chairs, with one going to Labour and one to Plaid Cymru.

It is a policy that the Labour leader in the Vale, Coun Neil Moore, has complained bitterly about.

Man arrested after bungled house burglary

by AJ SICLUNA

A MAESTEG man with the nickname "Bungles" has been jailed for a year for burglary.

Andrew Dyer (27) of Maesteg, admitted burgling a house in the Brackla area of Bridgend in April last year.

Prosecutor David Thomas said the occupier was watching television in the morning when a neighbour called and said he had spotted someone trying a handle of a door to the house.

It was later discovered that four sets of car

keys had been stolen.

Someone in the area recognised Dyer (known as Bungles) and he was arrested four hours later.

He said he had nothing to do with the burglary, but was later positively identified.

The court heard that Dyer is currently serving 30 months imprisonment for another burglary offence.

Judge David Wynn Morgan directed that the 12 month sentence should run concurrently. The case was heard via video link to Dartmoor Prison

Mother escapes prison over £36,000 benefit overpayments

A MOTHER of three who received more than £36,000 in benefits overpayment has escaped custody.

Sarah Davies (37) of Pyle, who had no previous convictions, admitted three charges of unlawfully obtaining benefits by failing to notify the authorities of a change of circumstances.

At Cardiff Crown Court Judge David Wynn Morgan sentenced her to 32 weeks imprisonment, suspended for a year, and ordered her to carry out 100 hours unpaid work.

He said: "These offences have to be marked."

Prosecutor Christian Jarrett said that over five years, Davies received overpayment of council tax, income support and housing benefit totalling £36,693.

Arrangements, he said, were now in hand for the money eventually

to be repaid.

He said that the offences began when Davies indicated she was a lone parent, but there had been evidence that for some periods she and her husband lived together.


She told investigators that her relationship had been volatile, and that for many periods, she had been alone.

Her counsel, Alex Greenwood, said: "She is working, she is healthy. This was not a criminal activity from the outset."

"Her case is that her husband came and went. Had she disclosed that, there would have been some entitlement. She had been in a turbulent relationship."

He added: "She is of impeccable character."

AJ SICLUNA



COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, 'Tynewydd', Llangan. (01656) 860303

Llanfest

THIS year's Llanfest will again take place on the green at Fferm Goch, Llangan.

Entertainment will include a fun fair, bungee run, bucking bronco, bouncy castle, face painting, outdoor skittles, craft and charity stalls.

Tea party

IF any GEM reader would like to attend a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, go along to 'Kelmscott', Coity, on Saturday, June 18 from 2pm–5pm.

Entry is £3 which will include entry and light refreshments; children under 12, £1. All proceeds from this event will go to the charity Help for Heroes, St Dunstan's and helping injured service personnel.

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MUST END 4.30 PM SUNDAY

All clearance goods have been transferred from storage to the salesfloors.

Showroom was closed Wednesday to write final price reductions.

FINAL WEEKEND! - FINAL REDUCTIONS!

ALL SENSIBLE OFFERS ACCEPTED!

ALL CLEARANCE GOODS MUST BE SOLD BY 4.30PM SUNDAY 5TH JUNE



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ACTONA 'ANDORRA' Lamp table with solid oak base and marble top WAS £295 NOW £99	KINGSTOWN 'MONO' 3 drawer wide chest in walnut finish and gloss front WAS £299 NOW £99	CONTEMPO 'HAMPTON' Stylish 3 seater sofa in luxury leather WAS £1499 NOW £499	UBU 'RIVERA' Tub Chair in durable fabric WAS £199 NOW £75	ABBEY 'NEWPORT' Large sideboard in solid hardwood with natural wood veneers WAS £995 NOW £199	LA-Z-BOY 'IOWA' 3 seater sofa with recliner action in quality chenille WAS £1999 NOW £699
BUOYANT 'SYMPHONY' 3 seater sofa with high back in quality soft touch fabric WAS £549 NOW £99	SEALY 'CHERISH' 5ft king size 2+2 drawer divan set with luxury posturepedic mattress WAS £1039 NOW £499	MORRIS 'HORIZON' Modern coffee table in natural oak finish WAS £499 NOW £99	ERCOL 'WINDSOR' Dining Table plus 4 spindle back chairs in solid elmwood WAS £2967 NOW £999	DORLUX 'BRONZE ELEGANCE' 5ft king size mattress with 'no turn feature' and comfort sprung interior WAS £615 NOW £199	Plus... all Mirrors, Pictures, Rugs and Accessories. Priced to Clear!

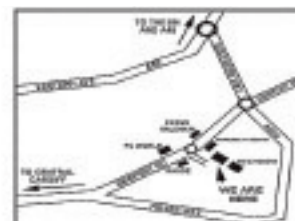


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Toasting success, above, are golfers from Lifestyle UK, Mark Webster and his team, Tom Tuck from Daneway Furniture, and Leekes managing director, Emma Leeke.

Leekes golf day gives £10,000 fillip to the NSPCC

A CHARITY golf day in aid of the NSPCC's 'Building Brighter Futures' campaign, was hosted by Leekes managing director, Emma Leeke, recently at the Vale Resort, and was supported by a number of the company's key suppliers.

Emma Leeke explained: "I was asked to join the appeal board of the NSPCC's 'Building Brighter Futures'

campaign to help raise £1.5 million before the end of 2012, to help the charity to continue their fund raising work in providing much-needed services and facilities for children who have suffered physical and emotional abuse.

"The golf day is one of a series of events that myself and my family have arranged to raise our target of £50k for the NSPCC. This particular

event has seen us raise £8,500, which was generously increased to £10,000 by Mark Webster, one of our furniture suppliers."

Emma reported: "A fantastic day was had by all who took part; the bad weather held off and all 21 teams had a wonderful day - with many already signing up for next year."

"A big thank you to everyone who has supported us!"

Penarth mother is cleared of murder

A MOTHER of four who admitted strangling her severely autistic son, was cleared of his murder by a jury at Cardiff Crown Court.

Yvonne Freaney (49) of Penarth, had denied the charge, but admitted the manslaughter of her son Glen (aged 11) on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

She had claimed that no-one else would look after him and he had been let down by Social Services.

The court heard that she killed him in a hotel near Cardiff Wales Airport.

Sentence was adjourned and she was remanded in custody until June 10.

Her counsel, John Charles Rees QC, said: "The question of her coming back into the community and how that needed to be dealt with would have to be consid-

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

ered." The Vale Council has indicated that it had launched a serious case review into the handling of the Freaney case.

During the trial, the authority had faced criticism from the defendant's lawyers in its handling of the case.

Phil Evans, chairman of the council's safeguarding children board said: "The board has already started a review of this case in accordance with the guidance issued by the Welsh Government."

He said an independent person with appropriate qualifications, knowledge and experience had been appointed to prepare a report.

Freaney's defence team said during the trial that she strangled her son because of an abnormality of mind while under stress and when suicidal, and suffered from a personality disorder.

Mr Rees said she was a battered wife, but her way of solving problems was not to kill her husband, but to kill herself and her son.

When police officers found Glen's body, surrounded by toys in the Sky Plaza Hotel last year, she said: "I had to do it, no-one else could look after him."

She said she had to "put him to sleep". She said she put his toys around him and then started cutting herself.

She said: "I sent him to the Kingdom of Heaven. My only regret is that I couldn't end my life - my blood kept on clotting."

Prosecutor Greg Taylor QC said that it was accepted that Freaney was a devoted mother who had cared for Glen, the youngest of four children and who could not be left alone for a minute.

During the trial, Freaney did not give evidence.

The court heard she had been treasurer of the RAFA Club in Penarth, where her husband was chairman.

The court heard that what were meant to be suicide notes were left at the club and in the hotel room.

The court also heard that the family had had to leave their home because it was declared uninhabitable.

The jury heard that she decided to leave her husband, who admitted violence towards her, and before the killing searched for a home for herself, living in a number of hotels.

After the case, her eldest child, Carla, said: "I love my mother and I will remain supportive of her."

Her husband, Mark, said the outcome of the trial "will not bring Glen back to us."

IT'S A FAIR COP FOR TY HAFAN AS POLICE SCALE THE HEIGHTS!



ABOVE: The walkers reach the summit of Scafell Pike.

POLICE officers and staff from Central division of South Wales Police based in the Vale, took up the challenge of scaling the three highest mountains in Wales, England and Scotland within 24 hours and succeeded with two hours to spare - despite atrocious weather conditions as they approached the summit of Ben Nevis.

The 11 - strong team, had been training regularly in the Brecon Beacons to raise funds for Ty Hafan children's hospice and Cancer Research Wales. The total distance walked was around 26 miles, the total height climbed around 10,000 feet, and 450 miles were travelled between the mountains.

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Iconic Penarth Pier Pavilion to receive £1.68m Lottery grant

FOLLOWING a five-year campaign, Penarth Pier Pavilion is set to be re-opened to the public, thanks to a £1.68 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Grade II listed Art Deco seafront pavilion has been closed to visitors since the 1990s, but thanks to a community-led campaign, Penarth Arts and Crafts Ltd (PACL) has secured the grant to fund major repair and restoration works to the inside and outside of the pavilion.

Built in 1894, the pier began life as a landing jetty and gradually developed into a focal point for the town's social life when a pavilion was built in 1929. PACL hopes to re-establish that focal point for activities appealing to local residents and visitors alike.

Following restoration, the pavilion will host a range of activities such as school sessions and will have a dedicated exhibition area focusing on the area's maritime heritage.

The first floor balcony will be redesigned to create an auditorium for lectures, conferences and film screenings and a café will be created which will overlook the seafront.

PACL has developed strong partnerships with a number of groups, including the volunteer organization "Coastwatch", wildlife sanctuaries and the RSPB. A new observation post

will give people the chance to watch birds and other wildlife, with live images linked from cameras located in the Bristol Channel.

As a landmark structure on the south Wales coast, Penarth Pier currently attracts more than 315,000 visitors annually, with numbers soaring in the warm summer months.

The reopened pavilion is expected to attract substantial numbers looking to explore the building and find out more about the area's heritage.

The local community will continue to play a crucial role in the project: 10,000 people signed a petition to save the pavilion and, as a result of this grant, up to 230 people including staff, volunteers and students will be offered training opportunities in conservation and leisure learning.

Five jobs will also be created through the project, including positions for an education and learning officer and pavilion manager and it is expected that more than 1,000 community members will get involved as volunteers, taking on roles such as heritage visitor guides.

Abi Trotman, aged 22, a volunteer and campaigner for the project, said: "Growing up in Penarth, I've always felt the pier and the pavilion is an integral part of the landscape. I am thrilled to know our generation will be able to make full use of all its facilities, like music and heritage crafts."

Dan Clayton Jones, chair of the

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for Wales, said: "Penarth Pier and Pavilion is an iconic landmark for south Wales and a fine example of early 20th century seaside architecture. This project will secure its future, celebrate its rich maritime history and create a focal point for community activities, both social and educational."

"We've supported PACL in recognition of the difference the project will make to the area as part of the regeneration of the town's seafront for both visitors and residents alike. The project has been led by the community from the start and it's fantastic to see so many local people continuing to pledge their time and support as volunteers to make it a success."

Coun Gordon Kemp, Leader of the Vale Council, said: "Having approved the basic lease terms and funding arrangements in support of the Penarth Arts and Crafts proposal, the Vale Council has shown its commitment to the regeneration of the Pier Pavilion."

"The announcement of the funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund brings the PACL vision for the building one step closer and is also a wonderful boost to the Vale's regeneration work in the town."

PACL was awarded £99,600 by Heritage Lottery Fund in November 2009, to develop its proposals further, and prior to that a grant of £50,000 was awarded in 2007 for essential planning work.



ABOVE: Shane Williams and Matthew Rees meet one of their many fans at the latest Llantwit Major Rugby Club's supper club evening.

SHANE WILLIAMS is spending so much time in Llantwit Major RFC lately that it is rumoured he has a loyalty card, but such is the draw of the man, the crown Prince of Welsh rugby, that once again a large crowd gathered to enjoy an evening in his company, along with Scarlets hooker and current Welsh captain Matthew Rees, two Welsh and Lions greats.

Shane's incredible record and achievements are legendary – more than 50 tries for Wales, including a record-equalling five times – plus tries against the three Tri-Nations countries (the only Welshman to achieve this).

Shane was joined on this occasion by 47-cap hooker Matthew Rees who has two tries for Wales and rose to the top of the hookers' rankings in the British Isles following the 2009 Lions tour of South Africa, where Mathew joined Adam Jones and Gethin Jenkins in an all-Welsh front row for the Tests.

The evening began with a meal of succulent sausages and mash provided by Spiros of Cardiff with members of Llantwit Major youth team helping to serve and delivering drinks to the tables. Matthew and Shane then spent a half hour or more signing autographs, souvenirs and mementoes and chatting to their many fans.

Then followed the customary question and answer session with Shane and Matthew on

stage and MC for the night Colin Price taking the mike (in more ways than one) around the room for everyone to get a chance to ask the two players their views on a wide variety of subjects.

This was a new experience for Matthew but he soon warmed to it and his responses warmed the crowd to him, while Shane, a veteran of such challenges, was cool, calm and collected and extremely honest and humorous as he shared his thoughts and memories and personal opinions.

Answers/questions that stood out were about role models. Shane pointed out that his dad was not a great rugby player, more of a social darts player – but his mum was an athlete – so that is where he probably inherited his ability, pace etc.

Shane reiterated that his role models were the stars of the 70s, the Crowning Years, especially Gerald Davies, not a giant in stature but a fantastic player, intelligent and committed in defence and lightning quick in thought and foot in attack.

Surprisingly to those present, Matthew picked Neil Jenkins (Ponty/Cardiff/Wales/Lions fly-half) as his role model, a dedicated, determined character, the ultimate professional who coached Matthew in his kicking game as a young centre and later

WALES LEGEND SHANE THANKS MUM FOR TALENT!

encouraged him to achieve the tag of best hooker when he moved up to the front row.

Matthew said the hooker he looked on as his role model was Keith Wood, the Irish legend for his all round game.

When asked about the most enjoyable tour, both players agreed that the Lions' tour to South Africa was a wonderful experience, though Shane mooted that an earlier Crawshays trip to Prague was a real cultural experience!

When asked about Gavin Henson's recall to the Welsh squad, both Mathew and Shane spoke of Gavin's great talent and skills and the possible contribution he could make to the Welsh cause, providing he is fit, in form, and mentally switched on.

Several questions were asked about certain individuals omitted from the Welsh squad and as you would expect, Matthew Rees made a strong point of speaking up for all the current squad and also the importance of keeping the door open for those on the fringe who could also push for inclusion in the World Cup squad, such as Gareth Delves, Iestyn Thomas and Llantwit's favourite son, Dafydd Hewitt among others.

Asked about best opponents, Matthew said playing against great hookers such as Ibanez (France) and Ledezma

(Argentina) had made him a better player and he has great respect for them.

Shane spoke highly of his Ospreys team mates Tommy Bowe and Niki Walker and England's Chris Ashton, the in-form player of the last Six Nations.

As for the future, Shane said it was his intention to retire from international rugby after the World Cup, but he gave the impression that if he came through in form and injury-free he might rethink. If not, Amman United will be some force next year in Division 4 South-West!

Matthew, of course, will take Wales into the World Cup and beyond, while he is keen to stay a Scarlet in the current set-up with an exciting young, developing squad.

So another great evening for grass roots rugby at Llantwit as Matthew and Shane impressed with their laid back, no holds barred, honest, humorous approach.

The auction and raffle were another big success, with Shane donating a pair of signed boots, the proceeds of which went to the Llantwit RFC players' fund.

MC and comedian Colin Price (Seven Sisters) did a turn to round off another great evening for rugby buffs.

DG

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Volunteers clean up at Watchtower Bay



VOLUNTEERS from Friends of Barry Beaches were again at work last weekend cleaning up one of Barry's main beaches, Watchtower Bay, which earlier in the week had hit national headlines for having the eighth worst water quality in the UK.

Co-ordinator, Rob Curtis, said: "It's great to see that Barry people are willing to volunteer to help

clean our local beaches...all too often people moan without doing anything to change things for the better. "Once again, beer cans and plastic bottles made up the majority of the refuse collected."

The next beach clean will be on Sunday, June 26 (meet at Marco's Cafe, Barry Island Square at 3pm).

Controversy continues over safety of shale gas drilling at Llandow site

CAMPAIGNERS against drilling for shale gas in the Vale at Llandow have had a wildly fluctuating week – with one piece of bad news followed within a few days by ‘good news’ – if that is the appropriate way to describe a small earthquake that hit Blackpool!

First, there was the news that a cross-party group of MPs had dismissed safety fears as “hot air”.

This emerged when MPs on the Energy and Climate Change committee said that proper regulation of the controversial process of fracking would mean that

there would be no risk of polluting drinking water.

One place where test drilling was already taking place was near Blackpool, but that has now been suspended after a small earthquake (reportedly registering 1.5 on the Richter scale) was recorded last Friday (May 27).

The same area was hit by an earthquake that registered 2.2 last April.

On the website of the anti-drilling campaign ‘The Vale Says No’, a post says: ‘Vale Councillors, are you listening?’

Those councillors will have to make a decision when the re-submitted application by Coastal Oil and Gas Ltd to drill at Llandow

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

comes before the planning committee of the Vale Council.

However, they are unlikely to have the final say.

Even before the latest earthquake development, Andrew RT Davies AM was stressing the need for “greater investigation of the experience of shale gas drilling in other countries.”

Mr Davies said: “It has been noted that changes to planning law in England will furnish residents there with greater power to stop shale gas exploration; changes that do not

apply here in Wales.”

“In any case, on the wider issue of whether shale gas drilling poses a safety risk to drinking water, I am clear that we must exercise caution before drawing conclusions.”

The Vale AM Jane Hutt is also supporting the ‘Vale Says No Campaign’ and has called for a moratorium on shale gas drilling.

Vale MP Alun Cairns has now met with the Minister for the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to discuss shale gas exploration in the UK and the planning regulations that surround such activity.

Charles Hendry MP explained to Mr Cairns that the approval of planning applications, and the actual monitoring of test-drilling and extraction of shale gas, is a matter for the Welsh Government, as planning is a devolved issue.

As the UK DECC Minister he (Charles Hendry), had no power to intervene with Welsh Government planning policy and decision-making processes.

The Vale MP has now written to the new Minister, John Griffiths AM, at the Welsh Government to raise his concerns, and to call on the Welsh Government once again for a temporary moratorium on shale gas test-drilling and exploration. He has also pressed for stronger and clearer planning guidelines to be issued to local authorities.

Plaid Cymru’s spokesman, Dr Ian Johnson, said: “We don’t yet know what has caused these earthquakes and tremors in the north-west of England, but it is a strange coincidence that they should take place close to the gas drilling site.”

“This type of drilling is potentially dangerous and should not be taking place in the Vale.”

“The principle behind drilling for shale gas is wrong.”

“We should be investing in renewable energy, such as tidal lagoons or a tidal reef across the Severn estuary which will be able to generate massive amounts of clean, green energy.”



Oakfield pupils win star praise!

EIGHT children from Oak Field Primary School took part in the first ‘Barry’s Got Talent’ show at the Memorial Hall Theatre recently, when they sang ‘Any Dream Will Do’ and ‘Candyman’.

They also enjoyed watching all the other schools performing various acts, and West End star of ‘Phantom of the Opera’, Peter Karrie, complimented them on their singing and praised their hard work!

BONVILSTON CONCERT

ST MARY’S church in Open Gardens Day on Sunday. Bonvilston will be holding a choral evening on Friday, June 10, and the church will be decorated with flowers ahead of the

Community’s get-together benefits Alzheimers charity



DINAS POWYS residents turned out in force recently for a get-together at the Rugby Athletic Club with hosts Michelle Powell and Alan Bagshaw.

Visitors celebrated the royal occasion, indulging in barbecue food, cakes, drinks and fun, as well as supporting the raffle, which helped raise a profit of £250, with all proceeds donated to the Alzheimer’s Society.

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Vale councillors' allowances fall just short of £1 million

THE total allowances paid to Vale councillors in the period from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011, show that the total paid out was £947,548.

The table reproduced below details the payments made, and the columns show the basic allowance paid to councillors, the payments made for 'special responsibilities', and any claims made for expenses incurred on council business.

The figures show that all the councillors have claimed the basic amount, £13,868, which is up by £512, a 3.8 per cent rise on the previous year.

The exception is Coun Gwyn John of Llantwit Major, who declined to take an annual rise two years ago, and hence is running one year behind other councillors.

The biggest special responsibility payment goes, as usual, to the council leader, who receives £38,139, taking his total salary to £52,007. Coun Kemp did not draw any expenses, and this was true of 30 other councillors.

In fact, the number of councillors who declined to take any expenses rose this year, up from 26 to 31.

The second-biggest special responsi-

bility payment went to Coun Hunter Jarvie, the deputy leader, who received £22,537, plus his basic allowance.

The other cabinet members on the Vale Council, Couns Jeff James, Janice Charles, Paul Church, Geoff Cox, Anthony Ernest, Tony Hampton, Rhodri Traherne, and Dorothy Turner, all received £17,336, plus their basic allowance.

Other special allowances that are paid to councillors include £9,708 for undertaking the duties involved in chairing a scrutiny committee.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Members' allowances paid in 2010/2011 for period: 01.04.2010 to 31.03.2011

List of Members	Basic Allowance	Responsibility Allowance	Other Expenses	Total
Alexander, M (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Bagstaff, S (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Bertin, R	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Birch, MEJ (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Bird, J	£13,868.00		£507.60	£14,375.60
Brooks, B (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Charles, J (Mrs)	£13,868.00	£17,336.00		£31,204.00
Church, P	£13,868.00	£17,336.00	£766.80	£31,970.80
Clifford, J	£13,868.00	£10,594.70	£270.40	£24,733.10
Cox, GA	£13,868.00	£17,336.00	£226.00	£31,430.00
Curtis, RF	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Drake, P (Ms)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Egan, S	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Ellis, V (Mrs)	£13,868.00	£295.58		£14,163.58
Elmore, C	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Ernest, AM	£13,868.00	£17,336.00	£1,595.60	£32,799.60
Fraser, J	£13,868.00	£9,708.00		£23,576.00
Hacker, E	£13,868.00		£548.80	£14,416.80
Hampton, A	£13,868.00	£17,336.00	£756.00	£31,960.00
Hartrey, V (Mrs)	£13,868.00		£72.00	£13,940.00
Hatton, K	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Hodges, NP	£13,868.00	£548.09		£14,416.09
James, HJW	£13,868.00	£17,336.00	£524.80	£31,728.80
Jarvie, TH	£13,868.00	£22,537.00	£442.40	£36,847.40
John, G	£13,356.00			£13,356.00
Johnson, FT	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Kelly Owen, M (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Kemp, G	£13,868.00	£38,139.00		£52,007.00
Kemp, K (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Moore, AJ (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Moore, N	£13,868.00	£9,708.00		£23,576.00
Osborne, CL	£13,868.00	£5,909.20	£306.00	£20,083.20
Preston, A (Mrs)	£13,868.00		£569.20	£14,437.20
Randall, M (Mrs)	£13,868.00	£3,120.75		£16,988.75
Sharpe, S (Mrs)	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Thomas, J	£13,868.00	£9,708.00		£23,576.00
Thomas, R	£13,868.00		£572.80	£14,440.80
Traherne, R	£13,868.00	£17,336.00		£31,204.00
Turner, D (Mrs)	£13,868.00	£17,336.00		£31,204.00
William, S	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Wilkinson, M (Mrs)	£13,868.00	£9,708.00		£23,576.00
Williams, CJ	£13,868.00	£9,708.00	£538.80	£24,114.80
Williams, Clive A	£13,868.00	£9,708.00	£92.40	£23,668.40
Williams, ET	£13,868.00	£590.92		£14,458.92
Williams, S (Ms)	£13,868.00	£9,708.00		£23,576.00
Wilson, M	£13,868.00			£13,868.00
Wright, M (Ms)	£13,868.00		£95.20	£13,963.20
	£651,284.00	£288,379.24	£7,884.80	£947,548.04

Find out where your shoebox gift goes

If you are one of the many in the Vale who pack a shoebox with gifts at Christmas for Operation Christmas Child then you now have an opportunity of finding out where it goes.

Mr Nicolai Baibutski, Samaritans Purse partner in Belarus, and who is involved in the distribution of shoeboxes in that country, will be at Highfields Church, Monthermer Road,

Cardiff on Wednesday June 8 at 7pm to give a short presentation and answer questions.

Also present to give a short talk on his work with the Samaritans Purse Disaster Aid Response Team will be Dr Alan Wood.

Dr Wood was amongst the first aid teams to reach Haiti after the disaster in that Country.

For further information contact Ted or Margaret Bird on 02920 734794.

TMCC



ABOVE: Looking for caring owners – appealing kittens Catherine, Cambridge, Charles, and Champagne.

Cats refuge centre is at 'breaking point'

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre has issued an emergency appeal following a huge rise in the number of abandoned cats and kittens in the area.

The centre has also seen homing figures fall by 26 per cent for the first four months of this year. It currently has 247 cats and kittens in its care, with another 397 stray and unwanted cats and kittens on a waiting list.

The centre says that with many of the unwanted cats in need of urgent medical attention, the situation is "at breaking point".

Harroine, Harry and Tanzi, are three of a litter of six kittens found abandoned in a box at only four weeks of age. The kittens were very poorly and sadly not all survived.

Aruba, a two-year-old female cat was found in a rubbish box with her litter of one week old kittens, traumatised and with a badly infected collar injury, so severe that she needed several courses of antibiotics and a skin graft to repair the damage.

Catherine, Charles, Cambridge and



Aruba also needs a good home.

Champagne, were found huddled under a bush in a memorial garden on the royal wedding weekend; they were only six weeks old at the time and terrified of people.

Sue Dobbs, centre manager, said: "I have been managing the centre for 13 years and have never known the situation to be so dire. We are at breaking point and if this continues, we are going to struggle to help

the many needy cats and kittens out there."

All cats and kittens at the centre are vet checked, neutered if old enough, vaccinated, microchipped, worm and flea treated and come with four weeks' free pet plan insurance.

Contact 01656 724396 if you would like to adopt a cat or kitten, or make a donation to help us care for unwanted cats and kittens.

Lonely Darren hates the dark

STAFF at Dogs Trust Bridgend are urgently appealing for an experienced dog owner to lend a paw and give a caring home to a beautiful Collie-cross who craves attention.

Ten-year old Darren is desperately missing being in a home, so much so that when the lights go out at night he gets anxious and can't get a good night's sleep. While he settles during the day, he craves company at night.

Staff are confident that with the right care, time and patience Darren will adjust - he has become a firm favourite at the centre because of his "gentle and loving nature".

Darren is seeking an experienced new owner who will take the time to understand him and be savvy enough to follow some behaviour guidelines to give him the direction he needs.

Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre Manager, Beverley Price says:

"Darren is such a loveable lad - he has a kind face to match his heart. He's been making great progress here at the centre, but hasn't taken as



Darren - he craves attention.

well to kennel life, so needs to overcome his separation anxiety in a caring home. We'll offer guidance along the way as needed."

Beverley adds: "A home with another dog, or even several dogs so that he is not the centre of attention, would be ideal for Darren. With time and understanding, we think Darren will come on very well - from our experience, you certainly can teach an old dog new tricks!"

To find out more about Darren, or to offer this desperate pooch a new home, please call Dogs Trust Bridgend directly on 01656 725 219, or visit the centre at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG.

Focus BARRY social night

FocusBARRY, the local group keen to tackle issues in the town, is having a social evening on Friday, June 3 at the Millwood Inn, Severn Avenue.

A spokesman said: "Members of the public are welcome to join us at 7.30 pm for a local quiz 'So you think you know Barry?', a session of bingo, a prize raffle, and a light buffet."

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Dyffryn Gardens offers new features to help visitors find out more about Vale's heritage

AN actor from the hit series Gavin and Stacey recently helped launch the Vale's new drive to let more people have the chance to explore the heritage in the area.

Ifan Huw Dafydd introduced a new initiative entitled 'Explore and More' at Dyffryn House and Gardens on Saturday, May 21.

Visitors on the day were the first to try out the new interactive kiosks created as part of the initiative.

The kiosks feature guides to nearby attractions and viewers can watch short films starring the actor.

From piracy on the Heritage Coast to Cowbridge's hidden Physic Garden, the films bring to life the hidden histories of the rural Vale.



Actor Ifan Huw Dafydd, who is featured in the Explore and More heritage films, with one of the new interactive kiosks.



Coun Gordon Kemp, Vale Council leader, with Ifan Huw Dafydd, and Nicola Sumner Smith, senior rural regeneration officer for Creative Rural Communities, with one of the new interactive kiosks.

BELOW:

Holly Stokes, aged three, with family friend Annalea Brigham



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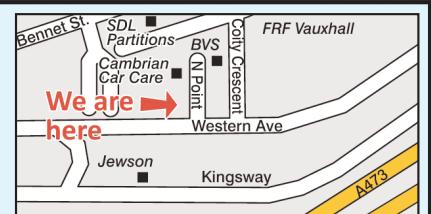
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Lucy (8) joins the cast of Oliver!

RIGHT: Lucy Miles from Barry is to appear at the Wales Millennium Centre.

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Lucy Miles from Barry recently auditioned with around 400 other hopeful young performers to appear in the cast of *Oliver!*

The show is coming to the Wales Millennium Centre, and Lucy was selected for a cast of 20 children.

Lucy has been training with Superstars in the Making performing arts academy in Barry

and has worked with director, Christian Bullen for two years. Christian said: "Lucy is a dedicated student who works hard to perfect her craft, and trains in gymnastics, ballet, street dance and theatre."

Lucy auditioned for *Les Misérables* in Bristol last year and made it to the final eight. Now, she is thrilled to be able to perform in her first professional show alongside top stars

including Neil Morrissey as Fagin.

Christian added: "Lucy auditioned with Oliver Haines-Knight, aged nine from Barry, and he is on the reserve cast list, which is also a great achievement."

Lucy will be travelling to London in October for training and will then appear at The Wales Millennium Centre from December 12 to January 21.



More honours awarded to local RAFA branch



ABOVE: The service at the National Arboretum and (below) the remembrance stone that the branch recently purchased.



ABOVE: Howard Provis (right) and Jim Doyle (left) holding the trophy.

THE Barry branch of the RAF Association has added to its haul of trophies.

Having recently won the South Wales, Midlands and South West Branch Efficiency Trophy, the Barry Branch was informed that it had also picked up the National Branch Efficiency Shield for branches with less than 150 members.

Howard Provis, the secretary, and Jim Doyle, the vice chair and delegate to conference, attended the RAF Association annual conference in Eastbourne recently to receive the trophy.

Howard also attended as the branch standard bearer, and was honoured to take part in the dedication service on the Sunday morning when 60 Standards paraded while a Spitfire flypast saluted overhead.

To achieve branch efficiency, members have to demonstrate good administration in key areas.

National Arboretum

TWENTY members of the Barry RAFA Branch and guests from the Vale and Cardiff recently visited the National Arboretum to take part in a service of dedication at the new memorial of the RAF Association.

The National Memorial Arboretum is set in the countryside of Staffordshire, between the towns of Lichfield and Burton-upon-Trent. The arboretum provides a living and lasting focus for remembrance, essentially for those who have lost their lives or suffered in the service of their country.



ABOVE: Branch treasurer Linda Doyle.



WHAT'S ON / IN BRIEF

Poppy Party

AS part of the Great Poppy Party Weekend, Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council is holding a coffee morning and afternoon tea, combined with a table top sale, in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall on Saturday, June 11 in support of the 90th birthday of the Royal British Legion.

From 10.30am, local clubs and societies will be offering for sale homemade cakes, pickles, marmalade and sweets, greetings cards and notelets, paintings, plants and bric-a-brac.

There will also be a Rock Shop, face painting, raffle, tombola and trade tables for honey products and the 'pampered chef' products.

Valeways walks

ON Monday, June 13 at 7pm, 'hidden valley' walk starts at St Bride's Major near the cattle grid, on the Bridgend side of the village.

On Wednesday, June 15 at 10.30am - 1.30pm, a castle, college and lighthouse extended walk starts at The Horseshoe Inn, Monknash (optional lunch at the Horseshoe - recommended).

On Sunday, June 19 at 2.30pm - 4.30pm, Singingstone and Llanmaes extended walk, Millennium Trail starts at the Victoria Inn, Singingstone.

On Monday, June 20 at 1.30pm, Rhosce coastal path walk starts at Rhosce Railway Station car park.

NEWS IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE School welcomes Irish rugby fans after Heineken Final!

BARRY Comprehensive and Cardiff International Airport joined forces again this year, to cope with the influx of rugby fans arriving for last week's Heineken Cup Final at the Millennium Stadium.

This year's final, between Leinster and Northampton Saints, saw around 100 coaches carrying Leinster fans back to the airport after the game.

To avoid congestion at the airport, some coaches were diverted into the school until the plane was ready to be boarded.

While waiting to re-board their coaches, the fans made themselves comfortable in the school canteen, where food and drink were available.

In addition to opening the canteen, extra lighting and toilets had been installed and local police officers were on the scene to ensure smooth running.

Sixth form students, who are off to Sri Lanka in the summer as part of the school's support of



Sixth Form students collecting for HelpLanka with generous Leinster fans at Barry Comprehensive School after the Heineken Cup Final.

the charity HelpLanka, helped serve refreshments and were very grateful to receive donations from the generous Leinster fans.

The operation was hailed a success and the preparation and sale of 100kg of chips in two hours kept everyone busy!

GRIM project! IN April, seven Barry Comprehensive School pupils from years 8, 9 and 10 auditioned for a role in an upcoming inter-

net based fantasy film called 'GRIM'.

This ambitious and exciting project is being written and directed by former pupil Lewis McGregor, who studied theatre, film and media at the Barry Sixth Form.

Lewis is currently attending Newport University, where he is studying film making and learning the tricks of the trade.

The feature film is due to air this summer, with audience figures expected to exceed 50,000 worldwide in the first week of release.

This project is being supported by Newport University and the local arts council.

The boy's auditioned for a speaking role in the film where they will play a young 'reaper' character who spends his life wandering among the stars, watching those he loves while being unable to communicate with them.

The audition involved them acting alongside stars of the film and having to learn

lines on the spot. A truly nerve wracking experience for anyone, however, the boys were very professional and acquitted themselves with the discipline and talent that we have come to expect from them during their time in the school.

It was a pleasure to watch them excel in this kind of environment, with all expressing how much they enjoyed taking part.

The lucky pupil was Mitchell Thorngate in year 8, who is taking part alongside the rest of the cast.

Year-10 pupils studying performing arts were involved in aspects of filming before Christmas where they played members of the 'Reaper' gang.

They will be called upon in the next few weeks as the filming process picks up speed in the summer.

We would like to thank Lewis for involving the school in this project and we look forward to continuing our relationships with him and Newport University.

AC



Mitchell auditioning for his role in GRIM.

Barry Town FC's future 'hanging in the balance'

THE former manager of Barry Town FC has warned the future of the club still hangs in the balance.

The club's supporters are due to meet at the Sea View Labour Club today, Thursday, June 2, at 6.30pm to discuss the latest developments.

Last week, The GEM reported that supporters needed to raise the sum of £125,000 to purchase the club, but they must also be able to make additional payments in years to come.

Former manager Gavin Chesterfield, who is working with the supporters' committee, explained: "There are two dates that are crucial to the future of the club – June 10, the annual dinner of the Welsh league, and June 25, the league's annual meeting.

"By those dates we have to confirm or resign our position in the league.

"We have £65,000 pledged by someone, but that leaves £60,000 for the supporters and perhaps other business people to find.

"If two or three business backers came up with £10,000 each, it would mean the supporters would have to find

£30,000."

Mr Chesterfield said he was content that the £65,000 backer was someone with integrity who could be relied upon.

He said he thought that a consortium which consisted of well-intentioned local business people and the supporters would be good for Barry Town FC.

However, he added that people who had the interests of the club at heart were in a race against time. "The future of the club at this time is very much in the balance," he warned.

One supporter, Jason Pawlin, told The GEM: "The Barry Town Supporters Committee (BTSC) is now a recognised cause on the fundraising website EasyFundraising.org.uk

"For further information on this easy and free way to raise money for the committee, please go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/btsc or simply search for the Barry Town Supporters Committee under the 'support a cause' link and start raising funds for this good cause immediately."

Alan honoured in national competition



(Left to right) Tom Heaven, engineering lecturer Geoff Shaw and Alan Bevan.

BARRY College student Alan Bevan won silver in a national skills competition for his skills as an electrician.

Alan came second in the all-Wales heat of SkillElectric Wales, a competition organised by Sector Skills Council SummitSkills.

The 22-year-old electrical installation Part 3 student from Rhosce can now go on to the UK finals of the competition to reward the best apprentices in the land.

The competition ran over two days at Yale College in Wrexham. Alan, who is an apprentice with Blues Electrical Ltd, represented Barry College's electrical department

and the college's work-based learning subsidiary the Vale of Glamorgan Training Association.

The entrants' performance was assessed with a theory test and a practical test designed to reflect their performance at their everyday work. Alan was awarded a trophy and cheque for £100 for coming second against opponents from all over Wales and now has the chance to go on to compete in the UK finals.

Alan said: "It was a good couple of days and it was really nice to take part. I was both happy to do so well and disappointed to come second.

"The work had a lot of variety and there was a lot to do in the time given."

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FEATURE

NATIONAL GLAUCOMA AWARENESS WEEK JUNE 6-12, 2011

Five important facts you need to know about Glaucoma

It is estimated that at least one in 50 people aged over 40 are at risk of having glaucoma, one of the leading causes of preventable blindness in the UK today.

The shocking reality is that 50 per cent of people with glaucoma are currently undiagnosed and therefore unaware of their condition.

In other words, potentially, more than 300,000 people in the UK could be slowly losing their sight without realising it simply because, in most cases, glaucoma has no symptoms in its early stages!

During National Glaucoma Awareness Week, the aim is to raise awareness of glaucoma and encourage everyone over the age of 40 to have a regular routine eye test that includes all three

glaucoma tests (ophthalmoscopy, tonometry and perimetry).

People should do this whether or not they believe anything is wrong with their vision.

A 'regular' test would be once every two years.

Many people may have heard of glaucoma, but what do we really know about it? Below are five key facts to remember about the 'silent stealer of sight':

● Glaucoma is an eye condition that in most cases gives no warning symptoms

● Everyone is at risk of glaucoma, especially those over the age of 40

● Glaucoma has very effective treatments, but if left untreated it leads to blindness

● Early diagnosis and effective treatment can prevent blindness

● Regular eye health checks at least every two years give the

best possible chance of early detection and the preservation of vision

David Wright is the chief executive officer of the International Glaucoma Association and he explained: "A comprehensive eye test for glaucoma, including all three glaucoma tests, is painless, quick and amazingly good value for money when compared with the consequences of losing your vision.

"The eyes may be or may not be the windows to the soul, but they are certainly a very important window through which only a skilled eye examiner can see a wide range of important things to the benefit of the individual and society as a whole."

For more information about glaucoma, visit: www.glaucoma-association.com; or call the IGA sightline (helpline) on 01233 64 81 70.

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Dr Adrian Jones from Jones & Jones Optometrists explained: "There are about 500,000 people in Wales and England with glaucoma, and about 70 million worldwide.

"It is estimated that up to 50 per cent of people with glaucoma are undiagnosed. There are no symptoms until extensive irreversible damage has occurred. Fortunately, glaucoma is easily treated but early diagnosis is essential in preventing irreversible vision loss.

"To increase your chance of being diagnosed early, you should visit your optometrist at least every two years – or more frequently if you have a first degree relative with glaucoma.

"You should ensure you receive the three basic tests that are available from all optometrists, which are: intraocular pressure measurement, inspection of the optic nerve and

visual field testing. For some patients these tests may be available on the NHS; for others, there will be a charge.

"There are a few specialist optometrists, such as myself, who will offer additional tests designed to increase the accuracy of the diagnosis, and clinics for those people who require treatment."

If you are concerned about the possibility of glaucoma, Jones & Jones Optometrists on High Street, Barry have specialist glaucoma diagnostic and management clinics. To book an appointment, please call 01446 400015.

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TAYPAYERS' ALLIANCE ON THE ATTACK IN A DISPUTE OVER 'RESETTLEMENT GRANT'

Vale MP defends his £29k farewell payment

THE Vale MP Alun Cairns has defended his decision to take a £29,000 Assembly 'resettlement grant'.

Assembly Members who stood down when the Assembly was dissolved at the end of March were entitled to the payment, but the Taxpayers' Alliance said it wasn't justified.

Charlotte Linacre, a manager at the organisation which campaigns to make politicians and public bodies accountable

to the taxpayer, claimed: "It's shocking that Alun Cairns has taken a resettlement grant created for jobless politicians, when he's actually waltzing off to Westminster."

"There is clearly no justification for milking this over-generous redundancy pay-off."

"He wasn't kicked out, he left, so he should give the money back."

"It's not right that taxpayers' money funds golden goodbyes when a term finishes, much less when they step down voluntarily, so profiting before

walking straight back into a parliamentary role is outrageous."

A Vale councillor also took issue with the payment.

Coun Gwyn John, who represents Llantwit Major, commented: "It is appalling to take a resettlement payment when he was resettled in a higher-paid job in Westminster."

"It sums up the current climate among politicians. We have seen this too often."

Mr Cairns was the regional Member for South Wales West when he was elected as MP for

the Vale of Glamorgan in May 2010.

He continued in both roles, but voluntarily forfeited his Assembly pay.

Mr Cairns stated: "I have not taken an AM's salary for the last year, but have received the resettlement grant after 12 years' service."

"The grant payment follows the precedent set by Dafydd Wigley, Rhodri Morgan, Ieuan Wyn Jones and others over recent years."

Dow Corning picks up best workplace plaudits



LEFT: Tom O'Byrne (CEO GPTW Institute UK), alongside Peter Donovan, Bunmi Odumoso, Johanne Stacey-Davies, Dave Bentley, Lyn Evans, Georgina Bryl, Leanne Richards, Kristy Healey (Dow Corning employees) and Bill Turnball (BBC breakfast television presenter and MC for the evening).

DOW CORNING has been ranked eighth on the list of the UK's 50 best workplaces, beating off competition from more than 200 other companies.

Dow Corning Corporation has also received 2011 'Best Workplace' awards for its sites in Germany and Belgium.

The ranking is compiled by the Great Place to Work® Institute, which monitors workplaces in more than 48 countries, including 18 in Europe, representing more than 1.6 million employees.

"It is an honour to be recognised as one of the best places to work in the UK," said Dave Ott, Barry's site manager. "Supporting our employees and the passion they have for their jobs and for this company is important to our success."

"We listen to our employees and do our best to give them the tools and resources they need to effectively manage work and life, advance in their careers, and volunteer in their communities."

Dow Corning currently employs 581 staff at its Barry site.

READER'S VIEW

A 'Golden Mile' for safety - or revenue?

I WAS interested to read the Vale of Glamorgan Council's extensive survey and actions taken on the Barry Docks Link Road because of the number of fatalities and accidents there.

Especially intriguing is the reduction in the speed limit from 60mph to 50mph.

This is the same reduction implemented on the Pentre Meurig crossroads on the A48 near Cowbridge - another black spot with fatalities and accidents over the years.

So can the council explain why, on possibly the straightest, safest road in the Vale, the national speed limit was reduced to 40mph?

I am referring to the section of A48 between the rail crossing near the Ford factory entrance and the junction with the B4524, where the only hazard may be a rabbit darting out from the grass or an aeroplane mistaking it for a runway!

I note the Link Road survey included the

speed camera unit which determined that the site did not meet the criteria for a speed camera, fixed or mobile. What was that criteria?

Over the last two years more than 3,000 motorists had their wallets and purses raided for exceeding the 40mph limit on this stretch of the A48. With the amount of money they have collected the Police are no doubt embarrassed about the old name of the road 'Golden Mile', so have designated it 'Brocastle'.

I do not think I'm being cynical when I wonder what was the criteria for a mobile camera on this section of the A48, safety or revenue?

There is no logical or safety reason for a 40mph speed limit on this section of A48 so why don't the council consider their ratepayers and return the road to its original national limit and stop the police from branding good drivers as bad ones?

HT Hailes, Cowbridge

In Business Update

'Pooch Palace' is a real doggy home from home

EMILY Baker, an animal lover all her life, is due to launch her

new business venture, Pooch Palace. Not wishing to burden family and

friends, she felt there was a niche market for a doggy home from home, enabling regular updates for owners wishing to check on how their companions were doing.

Lola of Thornhill gave the following testimonial: "This is the best place I've ever been to stay when my mummy has been away."

"I am definitely looking forward to my next visit in July to see Prince and some more new friends!"



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and shades; delivery, assembly and fitting service available.

We have introduced a new range of cane furniture and accessories, accompanied by a range of decorative china/glassware.

Our showroom has one of the largest selections in the area, boasting state of the art display pods.

Also, keep an eye out for our new website coming this summer; with great discounts and a vast range of products, it can't be missed!



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In Business Update




Ace helps keep your feet in motion

DO you ever suffer from aches and pains in the lower limb? How your foot functions can be some of the causes for foot, knee, hip or lower back discomfort.

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If you feel that you would benefit from an assessment, contact us for advice on any lower limb problem on 01446 790199.

The art of the sales pitch!

DON'T miss the brilliant Julie Thomas, of 'Simply The Best Training Consultancy Ltd'!

The focus of the evening is the art of the sales pitch! We all know that selling is essential in business but sometimes feel we lack the necessary skills and confidence to succeed in this area – but not anymore!

This event is timed to help prepare for exhibiting at the 2011 Vale Show. Drawing on her wide experience, Julie will take us through tried and trusted techniques in developing a sales pitch that highlights customer benefits while hitting just the right note.

Book your place now members@vwb.org.uk



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Get creative, have fun – and be inspired!

WOULD you like to learn to make jewellery, to wear yourself or to give as gifts for family or friends? This is an activity that is fun and very rewarding, working with a jewellery designer with more than eight years' experience.

During an introductory workshop in Llantwit Major, you will find out about the different types of beads and components and learn the basic skills necessary to create your own beautiful beaded jewellery.

All beads, findings and necessary tools will be provided, you just need to bring your own imagination.

Guidance with design will be given, but feel free to bring along any pictures or ideas. With a large selection of colours, shapes and finishes to choose from your creation will be unique.

Only good quality glass beads and pearls and silver plated findings are used so that you create a piece of jewellery that you will be proud of.

Numbers per workshop will be kept to a maximum of six people to ensure one-to-one attention. Due to the nature of using small parts and glass the age limit is restricted to over eight years old.

Looking for a unique and fun party idea with a difference? Try a jewellery-making party. This can be arranged in your own home.

I will have a stall, selling my own jewellery at Llantwit Major Victorian Fair Day on June 18, so come and have a chat if you need more information.

To book your space, please call Carolyn on 01446 792476.



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ORGANIC vegbox company Riverford on Wash Farm, believes that eating better quality, higher-welfare meat, less often and in smaller quantities is a healthy, thrifty and ethical way to eat this year.

"Meat and 10 veg is our philosophy on how to eat meat in a sensible way and save money," say Chris and Alison Moruzzi who deliver Riverford vegboxes in this area.

"Eat a small amount of good quality, ideally organic, meat and let the veg be the star of the show."

"It also makes good economic sense. A steak supper for six is likely to be painful on the wallet; a beef stir fry packed with vegetables is not."

Riverford has devised a fortnight's worth of meals that embrace the meat and 10 veg philosophy.

To find out more about organic veg and meat delivered to your door, visit www.riverford.co.uk.

Royvon can help with your dogs!

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unique dog hotel package for your dog while you're away – a stay in a clean, modern, quality accommodation with a high focus on activities and stimulation.

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Dave lost 63lbs in 10 weeks with the Cambridge Weight Plan...

DAVE SADLER (age 37) of Queens Road, Penarth started the Cambridge Weight Plan in January this year weighing 21stone with a 51 1/2 inch waist.

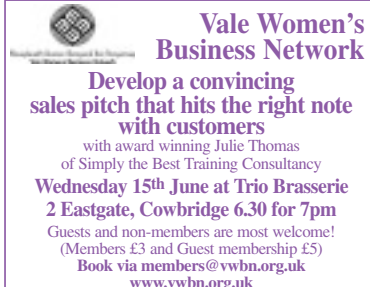
Dave lost 4 stone 9lbs and an incredible 9 inches off his waist. He started to notice he had a weight problem when his seat belt wouldn't go around his tummy and the size 50inch waste jeans were too tight but he refused to buy the next size up.

Dave is now 16 stone 8 lbs and on the maintenance programme. He said: "Overall, I thought the plan was great. I needed something that worked in the long term and gave me results I could see. I had tried other diets over the years and ended up out of pocket and NO lighter. The Cambridge gave me all I needed in an easy to understand format with NO measuring, weighing and calorie counting."

"The one-to-one support I received from my consultant Michelle Daniell was great. I have never had anyone text or call me on weekly basis to check how I was doing or if I had any questions. The weekly weigh-ins were great too, I could see how well I was doing – that made a huge difference."

"All my friends are commenting on how great I look, they could see my shape changing almost on a weekly basis and I felt a lot more confident."

Why not make a positive decision to change your life for the better and call TODAY to arrange your FREE consultation with Michelle. Tel: 07403-589375?



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POINT-TO-POINT BIDS FAREWELL TO 'POPULAR RACECOURSE' BONVILSTON

HORSE RACING fans who attended the Countryside Alliance (Wales) Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Redlands Farm, Bonvilston, on Bank Holiday Monday were shocked to learn that they will no longer be flocking to this most popular racecourse.

Former rider Tudor Harris, who owns the land the races are held on, said: "There are a number of reasons why racing won't be taking place here in the future and the situation wasn't helped when a racegoer who was knocked down by a loose horse last year decided to sue the hunt."

He added: "It is also hard getting people to lend a hand and the costs of everything needed to stage a point-to-point these days have gone up a lot."

Point-to-point steeplechasing has been taking place at Redlands Farm ever since 1997, and it is the home of the Welsh Point-To-Point Grand National, a race that has attracted horses and riders from all over the country.

Cheltenham Gold Cup winning jockey Sam Waley Cohen won the race a record three times on *Down* in 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Meanwhile, the amazing five-year-old *Findlay's Find* (Nick Williams) landed the Tim Vaughan Racing Mixed Open Race in fine style, coming home an official 14 lengths ahead of the useful 10-year-old *Balearic Star*

(James Tudor). The other two runners *Cottage River* and *Saucy Bingo* were both pulled up.

Findlay's Find was winning for the eighth time this season and according to Williams, who has won the Welsh Riders' Championship, "He jumped better than ever."

Racing got under way with the 4,5,6 and 7-year-old Open Maiden Race and Jodie Hughes, who has won the Welsh Ladies' Championship, survived a last fence blunder on *Swaheely Girl* to win by half-a-length from *Cardigan Island* (George Humphrey).

Owened and trained by Pontypridd's Luke Price, *Swaheely Girl*, a five-year-old bay mare, was racing for only the second time, and was described by Luke, who was saddling his fifth winner of the season, as "A bit of a bitch".

Luke is hoping to attract more owners and can be contacted on 07776 007083.

Joseph Williams (18) of St Mellons, rode a cracking race on Jack Rowsell's 10-year-old grey *Stoneriggs Merc* who got up on the run-in to win by half-a-length from the favourite *Ask The Thatcher* (Robbie Llewellyn).

A length down at the last fence, *Stoneriggs Merc*, a winner over the course earlier this season, and who stands some 17 hands high and being a grey, was an appropriate winner of The Grey Kid Memorial Trophy!

Wyn Morris's popular *Grey Kid*, it will be remembered, sadly dropped dead after fin-

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee



ishing a close second at Treccoed last season.

The eight-year-old and over Aged Maiden Race was won by Chloe Roddick's nine-year-old chestnut gelding *Nosler* who took it up five fences from the finish to win by 20 lengths from *Peter-Man* (David Pritchard).

Nosler was ridden for the first time by Tom David who 24 hours earlier had been riding in a steeplechase in France.

Tom's grandfather Jim Thomas, a former leading point-to-point rider himself in the 1950s, was acting as a steward for the last time, having served for around 30 years.

Doctor Simon Clarke's 10-year-old bay gelding *Diddle'Em* gave Paul Tolman his 11th winner of the season when out-jumping

his six rivals to win the Intermediate Race by eight lengths from the favourite *Mac Two* (James Tudor).

Winners: *Young Horse Maiden: Swaheely Girl* (Jodie Hughes) 7-1.

Novice Riders: *Stoneriggs Merc* (Joseph Williams) 6-1.

Restricted: *Sheer Brilliance* (Bradley Gibbs) 7-1.

Mixed Open: *Findlay's Find* (Nick Williams) 2-9 fav.

Aged Horse Maiden: *Nosler* (Tom David) 11-2.1.

Intermediate: *Diddle'Em* (Paul Tolman) 4-1.

Pony Racing 128CM: *Bugsy* (Jack Tudor) 3-1.

138CM: *Penway Tap Dance* (Lorcan Williams) 1-3 fav.

148CM: *Springs* (Michael Bowen) 1-2 fav.



PICTURES by GLYN EVANS



ABOVE: Action from the last point-to-point meeting at Bonvilston

Glaslyn Close, Cwm Talwg, Barry West End

An unexpectedly large plot is offered from this superb detached residence which is approached via a sweeping crescent shaped driveway which leads to a detached double garage. The property is located on the Western fringe of Barry, and just a minute's drive from the 'Five Mile Lane' and from there access to the M4 corridor.

The somewhat improved accommodation is accessed via a central hallway and to the ground floor comprises a cloakroom/wc, a splendid 25 foot living room with bay windows overlooking the 150 foot undulating rear garden, separate dining room, separate sitting room/gym/study/playroom, large refitted kitchen and wooden conservatory. To the first

floor there are five bedrooms, with the master featuring a sumptuous en-suite with multi person sunken jacuzzi bath, plus there is a contemporary refitted bathroom suite with shower cubicle.

The grounds are breathtaking and should be inspected to be appreciated - for size alone. Whilst one may feel they are in the heart of the country, local amenities such as regular bus routes, good schools, shops and further public transport are all on the doorstep.

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Gavin and Stacey fan's mega-marathon boosts Help for Heroes charity



LEFT:

Gavin and Stacey addict Richard Kell ran the 210 miles from Billericay to Barry Island, starting on Friday, May 27, and arriving on bank holiday Monday, May 30 to raise funds for Help for Heroes.

At Barry Island, he was welcomed by Vale Mayor, John Clifford and Marco Zeraschi, of Marco's Cafe fame.

Vale MP Alun Cairns ran the last leg with Richard who explained:

"I wanted to come up with an unusual way of raising money for Help for Heroes."

"By day two of the challenge, I was struggling but it was great when the sun came out to greet my arrival in Barry."

Anyone wishing to support Richard's marathon, and attempt to raise £20,000, should go to:

www.justgiving.com/midasmarathon.



Weather no problem for Sea View Lads AC

HIGH winds and plentiful rain have made fishing challenging at times, but on May 22, the bad weather didn't prevent some good fishing, and a number of double figure bags were weighed in.

First was Paul Crook with a total of 31lb 7ozs that included a 13lb 7 oz blonde, bass 3lb 7ozs spotted ray, rockling and a few dogs.

This weight would have been

even better but a large ray couldn't be landed due to the conditions!

Second was Aida Harris with a bag of 21lb 4ozs that included a conger of 6lb 9ozs, a thornback, 6lb 6ozs and a few dogs.

In third was Mickey Langford with a bag of dogs for 11lb 4ozs, Dan Stilton took fourth place with a bag of dogs for 7lb 15ozs, and last but not least, was Bus pass with a 1lb dog.

Unluckiest angler on the day was Lyndon Spry, who had a few dogs, but fishing alone had no one to weigh them for him.



Alun Cairns MP with James Kirkpatrick, works manager at Aberthaw.

MP welcomes Lafarge consultation promise

VALE MP Alun Cairns has welcomed a commitment by Lafarge to fully consult with the community over plans to burn two new waste fuels at the plant.

Mr Cairns met senior managers from Lafarge at the public exhibition held in Rhose Community Centre last week to view their plans to use waste-derived fuels.

The exhibition, staged as part of the pre-consultation process by Lafarge, provided the opportunity for local residents and businesses to come along and view the plans for the implementation of the two waste-derived fuels.

Aberthaw Works manager, James Kirkpatrick outlined Lafarge Cement's desire to move away from fossil fuels and to further reduce emissions from the works.

Mr Cairns reported: "It was useful to meet James Kirkpatrick and his team again, and to be able to see the waste materials that would be used."

"I was also keen to find out more about their fuel sourcing plans for the future of the works, particularly their criteria for choosing two other waste derived fuels."

"I was pleased that the plans to introduce new methods of fuel supply would only be undertaken with an extensive pre-consultation process with the Environment Agency and residents alike."

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Historic roots adapted to house a diverse range of modern businesses . . .

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

TRADERS at Bridgend Industrial Estate are keen to raise their profile in the wake of a decision by Bridgend planners to make them remove their directional signs.

The council dropped its bombshell last month when letters were sent out ordering people to remove signs advertising the location of their businesses or face enforcement action.

However, businesses on the estate are hoping that the row, which was featured in The GEM and other local newspapers, can be turned to their advantage by drawing attention to the fact that there are more than 100 businesses on the estate offering a wide range of products and services.

The site was developed during the war as the location of the Royal Ordnance factory – known locally as the Arsenal. This drew in thousands of workers every day from miles around – brought in by bus and train.

Thankfully, the German bombers never located it, and after the war it was redeveloped as Bridgend trading estate.

In those days, it was the home of many factories, including the old Christie Tyler furniture group. Other familiar names included Miles Laboratory (Alka Seltzer), Nu Stylo (shoes) and Zimmer Orthopaedic.

Many of these firms, who provided employment for thousands of people, have long gone – along with more recent arrivals including Sony.

But the estate has adapted, and now houses a diverse range of businesses, including some which manufacture goods and others which provide goods and services to the public.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 21)



*A wide range
of businesses
are active on
the estate.*



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BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Business update...
Professionals - Just a stone's throw away!

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Traders raise profile and turn controversy to their advantage..!

(Continued from page 20)

Someone who has been trading for 20 years is Dennis Theodore of Theodore Reclamation, whose business is located in one of the original arsenal buildings still on the estate.

He has seen many changes, but points out that businesses on the estate still offer a great choice to people needing specific items.

His firm, which he runs with his wife and son, specialises in offering reclaimed items - including flagstones, beautiful wood flooring and other timber, bathroom fittings, railway sleepers, old bricks, dressed stone plus doors and some windows.

The company has also extended its garden section where it sells mainly new items including statues, bird-baths and other items for use outdoors. It also sells old chimney pots which people use as planters.

The firm buys items from all over the country - sometimes from old churches and chapels as well as other older buildings.

"Reclamation is now big business nationally," said Mr Theodore. "People are realising the quality that's in these older products."

CAMPING

Steve Matthews of Bridgend Camping and Leisure Ltd has been in business for four years and occupies a unit within the old Sony complex.

The business sells camping and caravan accessories including tents, sleeping bags, camp beds, cookers and everything else that you could possibly need

to either go off in a tent or a caravan.

"We are a one-stop shop," he explained. "We can supply everything that people need. Camping has become more glamorous than it used to be and people now enjoy luxuries in their tents including electric light, heating, portable toilets and even a telly."

Mr Matthews said that the problem over the signs was affecting the business.

Bridgend Ltd who are the Vauxhall, Chevrolet and Mazda dealers. FRF, which also has a car dealership in Swansea, took over the Bridgend business, previously owned first by Jacksons and later by Burtons.

HIGH-PROFILE

Sales manager Mark James, has been with them 17 years altogether including eight in Bridgend.

The firm offers new and used cars, as well as servicing, MOTs and repairs. In all, 40 people are employed there.

The firm occupies a high-profile site and Mr Jones said that customers were able to locate them easily.

GALVANISING

Another firm on the estate is Joseph Ash Galvanising which employs 21 people.

David Satterthwaite, the divisional manager, explained that the firm galvanises products brought to it.

"Galvanising is a treatment which protects steel from rust and we carry out work for industrial and domestic customers," he said.

"If you have a gate or something that needs galvanising, you can bring it along for treatment."

The firm has been in Bridgend for 25 years and business is starting to pick up after a quiet patch.

He said that the firm's name had been taken off the large sign at the entrance to the estate and as a result, one customer had been unable to find them.

"But we are in quite a visible position and most of our customers seem to have sat nav, so we don't expect many problems," he added.



Left to right: Alan Blacker of Almesco; Emma Cox of CCS Wales Hot Tubs and Dennis Theodore with one of the direction signs put up by Dennis Theodore that council officers say will have to be removed.

"We had arrows telling people to go straight along Kingsway and then one telling them where to turn in. Since they have been taken down, I am having people ringing to say that they cannot find us."

"I assume that other people who cannot find us don't ring and just go."

He said that businesses on the estate pay their rates and were just trying to make a living.

"We are getting nothing back," he said. "Thankfully, we have a band of very loyal customers and I just hope that if people get lost, they will ring."

A long-standing business is FRF

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This second Hangover is familiar but well worth having!

YOU would have needed the prediction skills of Nostradamus to have said that one of the cinematic highlights of the summer of 2009 would have been three men losing a groom before a wedding, and their hangover-afflicted plans to find him.

Yet *The Hangover* was, critically and commercially, a hit, and the desire for more adventures, coupled with healthy box office, has made *The Hangover Part II* a reality.

This time around, Phil (Bradley Cooper), Stu (Ed Helms), and Alan (Zach Galifianakis) travel to Bangkok for Stu's wedding, only to find themselves in another post-blackout misadventure which sees faces new and old crop up to help, and hinder, them...

The pressures of being a sequel are high. Will the second outing be able to match, or even surpass the thrill of the first time around, or will it flounder under the weight of expectation and a lack of ambition, driven by a desire to replicate what made that first outing so successful.

It's something those involved in *The Hangover Part II* will no doubt have been aware of, and the end result, while laugh out

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

loud hilarious, does find itself stuck between these two extremes.

With the opening sequence playing out as an update of the same opening of part one, you're not quite sure whether director Todd Phillips and fellow writers Craig Mazin and Scot Armstrong are ironically referencing films that retreat old ground or just consciously framing the film in the same way.

What unfolds is more or less part one with a few more twists and turns while introducing new characters (such as Stu's soon-to-be brother-in-law Teddy) or showing more of existing ones (Ken Jeong's Chow). This certainly shows a lack of imagination by the screenwriters, but is just about excusable by virtue of the laughs on show.

Now, this film certainly isn't for the faint of heart, or those who believe crudity to be the lowest form of wit; but

those with a more open mind will find much to laugh at as the characters are put through the wringer with scant regard for sympathy or their health.

Certainly the stakes are raised, as is the level of gross-out comedy on show, and the laughter very rarely dissipates as the writers conjure up more ways to tickle your bone and test your gag reflex at the same time.

It's just a shame that the actual story isn't a touch more daring and fresh, rather than the reheated morsels we are given.

Phillips' direction doesn't veer too far from the template he set himself first time round, lensing Bangkok with the gratuity you would expect, with the occasional bit of action stylishly done, while the performances are, as expected, up to scratch.

Once more, spell-check nemesis Zach Galifianakis runs away with proceedings as the seemingly development-arrested Alan, whose antics raise the most laughs, while Bradley Cooper and Ed Helms both deliver more than their fair share of comedy, if a touch short of charm.

If Ken Jeong is a little too unleashed as crazy gangster Chow, then it is compensated by the performance of a monkey in a sleeveless denim Rolling Stones jacket – the antics the animal gets up to have to be seen to be believed!

Beneath the bawdy atmosphere and the thrill of seeing characters you have engaged with again, there is the feeling that *The Hangover Part II* is treading over already worn ground, and you would be right – however, when it still leaves you rolling in the aisles with laughter, you can't complain too much!

VERDICT – A story that does little more than follow the template of its forerunner is rescued by its highly hilarious comedy, making *The Hangover Part II* a worthwhile viewing experience. Those easily offended should steer clear but those with an impish sense of humour will find much to enjoy.

Highly recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Hangover*, *Very Bad Things*, *Borat*.

The Penarth Computer Club: Keyboard shortcuts

KEYBOARD shortcuts are worth revisiting because they are such terrific time-savers; they are combinations of two or more keys that, when pressed, perform a task that would otherwise require several mouse-clicks.

They make it easier to interact with your computer, saving time and effort when using Windows and most applications.

Howard explained that in most key combinations, one of the keys will be a modifier key, in that it changes the action produced when pressing the other key.

The most common example would be the Shift key. Its usual job is to moderate the action of a letter key-press by changing the case of the letter (to a lower-case letter if the Caps Lock is on). But it does other things as well.

It reverses the action of some keyboard shortcuts if it is held down as the shortcut is used.

It also helps with text selection. If you hold down the Shift key and select text using the

arrow keys, it is possible to start and end the selection within a word. To do this with a mouse is just about possible, but exceedingly frustrating because the mouse wants to select complete words. It might not seem like much of a difference, but it comes into its own if you do a lot of editing.

There are more ways of being precise with the text you are selecting. Try these.

A single click will place the cursor within the text. A double-click will select the whole word. A triple-click will select a whole paragraph.

But if you hold down the Control Key and click in the text, you will select exactly a single sentence whether it is a complete paragraph or just part of a paragraph. (You can also use this little trick to see that your sentences are not so long that they are difficult to understand.)

Don't forget the Page Up and Page Down keys for speed of navigating around a document.

Control+Home goes to the start of the document (or cell A1 on a spreadsheet page); Control+End goes to the end of the document (or the last occupied cell on a spreadsheet page).

Members were reminded that there are hundreds of shortcuts available – far too many to list here. Google 'Keyboard shortcuts' and you will see for yourself. There are lists of favourites and lists of shortcuts grouped together for operating systems or for applications.

Remember that if you find yourself wishing for a shortcut you are not alone. Someone has almost certainly created it already. You just have to find it!

During your search you will probably find several others that you will find useful and you will end up with your own list of favourites.

We next meet on Tuesday, June 14 at All Saints Lesser Hall at 7.30pm. Chris will explain the basics of setting up a home network. Visitors welcome. Call 02920 708439 or visit the website www.penarthcomputerclub.co.uk.

HOWARD DESMOND

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DAREDEVIL GRAN JENNY COMING BACK FOR MORE!

by PHILIP IRWIN

ST ATHAN'S daredevil granny, Janet Warren, made headlines in The GEM last year when she tackled a charity abseil from the top of the Celtic Manor Hotel just outside Newport.

It proved to be a successful venture, and she raised more than £500 for her chosen charity, Macmillan Cancer Care.

It also turned out to be an "exhilarating experience" and Janet is going back to Newport again this year, to take on an even more scary chal-

lenge – an abseil from the top of the historic Newport Transporter Bridge!

She told The GEM: "It is very different, not least because the drop is more than 170 ft – almost double last year's!"

There's more too, because the abseil at the Celtic Manor was down the side of the building, and reaching the top was a matter of taking the lift.

The transporter bridge, however, will involve an abseil into thin air, not moving down a wall in a series of steps.

Janet will have to step out from the top, and rely on the experts to get her down to the base in one piece.

She said: "My husband David is not too keen on this one, but last year was so exciting that I had to try. It is being organised by the same team, and I have so much confidence in them that I am sure it will be even more of a

thrill!" There is one small problem, however. The historic transporter bridge has no lift, so Janet faces a long climb up ladders to get in position for the abseil.

She said: "I am definitely the oldest taking part, and most of the others seem to be fit young men who are firefighters or soldiers. I have had to get into training going up stairs so I don't hold everyone up!"

The abseil is on Sunday, June 26, and Janet is one of the first to go. She is scheduled to be in position and ready to go between 9am and 9.30am.

She said: "Macmillan does wonderful work and I am hoping to beat last year's fundraising total."

"I will be out and about distributing sponsorship forms, and I hope that people will sign up. I can also be contacted on 07719 776510."

She added: "People can also make a donation direct to Macmillan by going on to their website."

Miss Wales finalists leave off make-up!

MISS BRIDGEND, Stephanie Lubbock (24), and the other Miss Wales finalists gave up make-up for a week – to support The Joshua Foundation,

which provides holidays and experiences for children with cancer and their families.

Stephanie from Porthcawl was aiming to increase her fundraising total for the charity.

Miss Newport finalist, Zara Jones, came up with the fundraising idea and Pat Cornelius, official ambassador for The Joshua Foundation, said: "I do admire these girls – they're much braver than I am. It's a

wonderful gesture that the contestants are putting sick children before themselves."

In recent years, the competition has raised more than £300,000 for The Joshua Foundation, and the finalists are hoping the make-up ban will help them smash last year's fundraising total of £60,000.

Miss Wales 2011 will be crowned at the grand final on Saturday, July 2 at St David's Hall and will then go on to represent Wales at Miss World in London later in the year.

The reigning Miss Wales is 21-year-old Courtenay Hamilton, from St Donats.

VILLAGE FETE

LLANDOUGH Community Council, in partnership with local organisations, will be holding its annual village fete on Saturday, June 11, starting at 2pm in King George V Memorial Playing Fields, situated off Leckwith Road.

As well as a range of stalls selling a wide range of items, there will be many special attractions, including Mr T Ricks (magician), the Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band, the Desert Divas, Llandough School singers and dancers, classic buses and bikes, bouncy castle, children's races and a pet competition.

Win a set of royal stamps with The Glamorgan GEM

THE champagne corks have popped, the couple have returned from honeymoon – but there is still a way to celebrate the royal event of the year – with a set of Royal Mail commemorative stamps.

Royal Mail in Wales is giving away presentation packs of the stamps that celebrate the royal couple, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, as they announced their wedding plans.

The stamps themselves feature the two official engagement portraits taken by the world renowned photographer, Mario Testino.

As with all Royal Mail's commemorative

stamps, The Queen gave final approval for the issue, with Prince William also involved in the approval of these stamps.

To enter the competition all you have to do is answer the following question:

The royal couple are the Duke and Duchess of where?

- Cambridge.
- Xanadu.
- Essex.

Answers on a postcard, marked 'Royal Stamps' to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, no later than Friday, June 10.

No correspondence will be entered into and the judge's decision is final – good luck!

Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON, WHEN AND WHERE

Mayor's coffee

THE Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Andy Banks and the Mayoress will be continuing the regular coffee mornings on the first Saturday of each month, starting this Saturday, June 4.

This year, the Mayor's charities are Wales Air Ambulance and Marie Curie Cancer Care, and all are welcome at the Mayor's Parlour between 10.30am and 12.30pm for a cup of tea or coffee and cake for £2.50 per person, in aid of these charities.

Ward

surgery

THE Labour councillors for Castletand ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell, will be holding their regular monthly advice surgery on Saturday, June 4, between 10.30am and 12pm at the Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry.

No appointment is necessary. If you need

Test match ticket winners

THE winners of our competition for tickets to the England - Sri Lanka cricket test match were Brian Cooper of Barry and John Brace of Southern Down. **Congratulations to you both!**

advice but can't attend the surgery, contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506116 or 01446 401 595.

Gardens

visits

GARDENS will be open as part of the National Open Gardens scheme in Llanmaes and Llantwit Major on Sunday, June 5 at 11am - 5pm. Admission £4 inclusive. Follow the yellow NGS signs to reach us. Refreshments available at two gardens.

Family service

AA Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a special family service for Pentecost on Sunday, June 12 at 10am for all ages to participate.

Refreshments served afterwards; all welcome.

Monks

Wood meeting

THERE will be an open meeting with the Woodland Trust on Friday, June 17 at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion, Wick, to discuss the development and management of Monks Wood, Wick. **More help**

Shamones rock!

SATURDAY (June 4) sees the return, to the West End, of Barry's own Ramones tribute band 'The Shamones'.

It features brothers, Andy and Dave Johnson and ex-Damned bass player, Bryn Merrick, and has a repertoire of

in store!

BON MARCHE at Holton Road in Barry has collected old and unwanted mobile phones in aid of the Help for Heroes charity.

Spokeswoman Sandra Downing explained: "The management and staff at the store have now decided to extend this for a couple more weeks, as we have had a fantastic response since the notice was printed in your newspaper a couple of weeks ago, and would love to help the charity some more."

"We also have in store the famous h4h wrist bands and a collection tin to pop in your spare coppers," she added.

Whit Sunday service

ON Whit Sunday (June 12) at 2.30pm, the United Christian Churches in Pencoed will be holding a service on the green opposite the Co-op.

If raining, the service will be held in the Welfare Hall. All are welcome.

Local artist is mentor to artistic carers

AN artist from Wick is exhibiting some of her work as part of an exhibition in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital.

Following on from her exhibition of drawings at St Donat's Art Centre last March, Sol Jorgensen has now secured a place for some of her work for six months in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, at the entrance to Seren Ward.

Also on show is work done with the Rhondda Carers Centre and Gwanwyn Festival, and it features selections from *The Journal*

Project, which was created by Sol.

The panels on show were completed with exciting individual pieces by each member of the group, covering poems and drawings or textiles.

Sol said: "These panels speak of the lives of carers in small communities. Each person had a voice and a story and an individual style."

"I was able to help others put pen and pencil to paper to create a celebration, which was also shown by Jane Hutt in the Senedd."

'People of the Past' bring the Vale's history to life

THE 'People of the Past' once again brought history to life, deploying military vehicles to King's Square in support of Barry Library's Intergenerational Day and book launch event.

On Saturday May 21 King Square and the County Library was a focal point for both heritage and literature in the Vale, as local authors Dr Jonathan Hicks and Eileen Younghusband launched their new military history novels.

Dr Hicks gave a presentation to guests, where he explained that his new novel, *The Dead of Mametz*, is a crime thriller set amid the horrors of the First World War trenches.

He explained that the characters were based on images of unknown soldiers found on WW1

postcards.

Eileen Younghusband's latest novel, *One Woman's War*, tells the story of how, during her days in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, she helped to detect the launch sites of Hitler's notorious V-weapon flying bombs during the Second World War.

Also present at the Vale Inter-generational Day was Jane Hutt AM, who met with young volunteers gaining many skills and great experience as well as older volunteers enjoying bringing wartime history to life.

She said: "It was great to get involved with 'the forces' young and old during the inter-generational day as a part of the Vale Learning

Vale gardens open to public for National Garden Scheme...

THE National Garden Scheme helps to raise money for charities such as Marie Curie, Help for Heroes and Macmillan Cancer Support and over the weekend June 4-5, a number of Vale locations are taking part.

Five gardens in Llyswoyney will be open, together with St Tydfil's Church which dates back to the 13th Century.

Black Barn House has a garden designed on circular linking themes which are divided by using trellis, archways

and trees.

Brocton House offers a recently extended and renovated garden arranged in terraces overlooking open farmland and countryside.

The Chase is an informal garden backing on to farmland with an interesting mix of perennials, shrubs and roses.

Springfield House is a terraced garden offering beautiful views from the front. There is also a pond, rhododendrons, herbaceous borders and an abundance of wildlife in a quiet little lane.

Wolf House is an old established walled cottage offering mainly perennials and roses. There will be a plant sale at Wolf House.

The gardens in Llyswoyney will be open

on June 5 from 2pm to 6pm.

Llanmaes, a mile from Llantwit Major, will have front and back gardens on view including an eclectic mix of large and smaller gardens attached to historic houses, farm-houses, modern houses and cottages.

Plantings are varied from cottage garden style to formal, with clipped yew and box hedging. There are vegetable plots, water features, ponds, streams and woodland settings, container gardens, ducks and chickens.

Llanmaes gardens will be open on June 5 from 11am - 5pm, the charge is £3.

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July 1st Twelfth Night with Illyria 7.30pm - Please call to book

August 20th & 21st Family Fun Weekend 10.00am - 6.00pm Fun activities for all the family

August 26th Pirates of Penzance with Illyria 7.30pm - Please call to book

Sept 13th A Plantsman's Garden - My Own Garden and 25 years of Growing Hardy Plants with Roy Lancaster. 7.00pm - Please call to book £12 per person

To check our events, please see our website www.dyffryngardens.com
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E: dyffryn@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

ST LYTHANS

where the stones go to bathe in the river

AT Cogan Leisure Centre, the rain fell and the wind blew and after consultation, the three walkers that joined Joy all agreed to remain on home territory and save the planned walk to Skenfrith for another day!

Making their way to the Woodland Trust car park at Michaelston, wet weather gear was donned and they set off through the lush buttercup meadows at Casehill and over the footbridge, to follow the Cadoxton River through fields and emerge at Michaelston-le-Pit.

Walking the quiet lane they reached The Lawns and turned east into Limekiln Wood, then down through the long wet grass at Cwm Slade to follow the road where wild strawberries were

spotted in the hedgerow, to reach Wenvoe village.

As the rain had stopped and the sun put in an appearance it seemed a good place to stop on the green to enjoy some refreshment and dry out.

Climbing through a field they entered woodland and passed through the orchid meadow with its collection of common spotted orchid.

Then upon reaching Twyn-yr-Odyn they took the footpath that runs behind the Wenvoe Transmitting Station, which further along was very overgrown following some rainfall that had boosted the foliage growth.

Grass and ferns had been cut at the Downs and continuing on past earth working at Vianshill Farm, they crossed a large cropped field into part of Coed Nant-bran and at the next stile had to rescue a lamb

that had got its head stuck in the wire fence.

Cropped fields, with a strong wind blowing in their faces led them downhill to Dyffryn which dates back to 640AD when it was known as the Manor of Worlton and rented to the Button family.

The name was changed to the Manor of Dyffryn during the 18th century when the estate was sold to Thomas Pryce who built the original Dyffryn House.

Some road-walking followed which led them to Maes y Felin (or mill field) where the St Lythans burial chamber stands with its huge capstone measuring 14 foot by 10 foot and which was originally covered with a mound of earth or stones.

Legend has it that any wish whispered to the stones at Halloween is granted and on Midsummer's Eve it is alleged the capstone spins three times while the stones go down to the river to bathe.

It was too windy there to stop for lunch but a dip in a field further along made them a bit more comfortable.

By now the sky had turned blue, the sun was shining and the still blustery wind was on their backs as they continued past Goldsland Wood and onto the Wenvoe golf course to Burdonshill.

Passing through a field of long grass, which was hard work on the legs, the group dropped down to Wenvoe village continuing through the underpass to join fields leading to Wrinstone

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS ROUND-UP

Farm and en route catching sight of a lesser spotted woodpecker above in the trees.

Entering woodland at Cwrt-yr-Ala they followed the Wrinstone brook down through the salmon leaps, disturbing two grey herons that flew off, finding a slow worm and spotting a dragon fly before joining the road and crossing the stone bridge at Bullcroft.

Tramping through the barley fields where the tall green spikes of barley were being tossed around in the wind they reached the Millfields, where a horse and rider were crossing the ford, before re-crossing the Cadoxton River bridge to climb gently up into Casehill Woods and follow woodland paths back to their start.

On June 5, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile mod/hard walk at Rhosilli; contact Val H on 029 2051 3274.

On June 9, meet 7pm at Cosmeston Country Park for a five-mile easy/mod walk at Cosmeston and Lavernock.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For details of other walks please log onto <http://www.ramblers.org.uk>. Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 219102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Vintage vehicle club's run from Penarth to Porthcawl



PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

ON Sunday, May 22, the 23rd seaside run of the Vintage Motor Cycle Club took place.

The run started in Penarth and went via Nash Point to Porthcawl, where the group assembled at the Seabank Hotel before returning to Penarth.

Vintage cars were also included in the event.



Praise for volunteers



The AM is pictured with Nona Hexter, Samantha Jenkins and Gay Fifield.

AGE CONCERN'S spring fayre on May 23 at the Senior Health Shop on Holton Road, Barry, was opened by Vale AM Jane Hutt.

She commented: "Opening the fayre

gave me the opportunity to thank the many volunteers, led by Gaye Fifield, who work tirelessly for Age Concern and all those they serve, organising events, outings, meetings, trips and fundraising events to make it all possible."

Windsor men win again...

WINDSOR men's 2nd team continued their undefeated run with two more wins in the last week.

Travelling to Firbankdale in Newport they enjoyed a comfortable win 7-2, and followed this by smashing Lisvane at home in a 9-0 rout. The Firbankdale match was played in a howling gale, with captain Jon Cox and partner Dyfri Owen leading the way with a hat trick of wins.

Talented young Morgan Williams made his debut for the 2nds, pulling off two wins and losing a tie break match alongside the experienced and skilful Guy Bradley.

John Adamson and Mark Rhodes lost their first rubber in a tie break, and showed tenacity to come back and beat their remaining opponents in straight sets.

The 2nds win over Lisvane was even more straightforward for the Windsor men.

Paul Hudson made his debut, playing alongside the stylish Tom Sidford, and they disposed of their opposition in straight sets.

Cox and Owen didn't drop any sets as they cruised to victory, while Rhodes and Dan Pitt faced two third set tie breaks, but held their nerve to emerge winners.

The promotion-chasing team faces a tough challenge when they travel to Cardiff Castle to play their 4th side, in what promises to be a stern test; the following day they entertain

Cwmbran at home.

Meanwhile, Windsor Men's 4th team went down to a heavy 7-2 defeat away at Allt-Yr-Yn in Newport.

The saving grace, from the Penarth perspective, was the excellent performance of young Jack Davies, who teamed up with Matt Holmes to pull off two wins in an otherwise bleak afternoon for the visitors. NG

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Mr Jason Meadows – 90 Woodham Park, Barry –

Proposed single storey extension to rear to form family room.

Mr William Thomas – 1 Boon Close, Barry – Two storey extension to provide additional specialised accommodation for elderly parents.

Mr Harry Jones – Old School House, Cardiff Road, Cowbridge – Felling of four ash trees.

Mr Christopher Leeke – Ty Hensol, Hensol Park, Hensol – Two storey extensions and associated works.

Mr Christopher Leeke – Ty Hensol, Hensol Park, Hensol – Two storey extensions and associated works.

The Governors of Stanwell School – Stanwell School, Salisbury Avenue, Penarth – Proposed single storey cafeteria extension at Stanwell School, Penarth.

Mr Chris Wood – 30 Dyserth Road, Penarth – Single storey side and rear extension.

Mrs Victoria Hayes – 58E Salop Street, Penarth – Conversion of existing 2 bed dwelling into 2 no. 1 bed self contained flats.

Mr W Marsh – Treetops, St Andrews Road, Dinas Powys – Reduce heavily weighted limbs and crown lift one oak.

Mr Derek Richardson – 31 Albert Road, Penarth –

Extension and conversion to form house.

Messrs Brian and Ian Mead – Trem y Glyn, 8 Windmill Lane, Cowbridge – Removal of condition 12 of application

2009/01006/FUL to remove requirement for patio screens.

Mr James Coombs – 8 Cwrt y Vil Road, Penarth – Single storey rear kitchen extension.

Mr Johann Van Rooyen – 1 Chapel Terrace, Wenvoe – Two storey rear extension.

Mr Mo Misra – Pen y Bryn, Leckwith Road, Llandough – Dormer windows to side and rear elevations.

Miss Racheal Joseph – 6 Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan – Single storey extension to rear and porch and cloakroom to front elevation.

Ms S Black – 33 Lavernock Road, Penarth – Two storey rear extension.

Mr Tony Wilson – 12 Main Avenue, Peterston Super Ely – Internal alterations and two storey extension(s) to rear of property.

R S Bird Ltd and Waitrose Ltd – R S Bird Ltd, Birds Lane, Cowbridge – Demolition of redundant garden centre buildings and erection of food store

building (approximately 2,074m² gross external area) and non food retail building (approximately 661m² gross external area) and service yard together with 138 car parking spaces, retrouted public footpath and landscaping.

R S Bird Ltd and Waitrose Ltd – R S Bird Ltd, Birds Lane, Cowbridge – Demolition of redundant garden centre buildings.

Mr Anthony Beard – AB Car Sales Ltd, Cardiff Road, Barry – Car sales, servicing and MoT centre.

Mr Mark Vincent – 22 Daniel Hopkin Close, Llantwit Major – Demolition of existing conservatory to rear and erection of new single storey lean to extension to rear.

Mr and Mrs G Bianchi – The Barns, Crossways, Cowbridge – Alterations and extensions including first floor extension to Granny Annexe, two storey glazed link and alteration to fenestration.

Mrs Michele Cutting – 12 Porthkerry Road, Rhosoe – Rear extension incorporating kitchen/dining room.

Mr Wahid Khan – Rear of 2 Barry Road, Barry – Demolition of existing building and construction of new three bedroom

Joy for two Cowbridge pupils, but disappointment for two Bryn Hafren girls in middle distance event!

Words: PETE MORRIS
Pictures: IAN DIXON

THE opening fixture of the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' summer track and field programme – the 16th Combined Events championships was held at a cold and windy Cardiff International Sports Stadium.

Last year, at the same venue, a record number of over 200 pupils took part at the 15th staging.

With the late Easter weekend pushing the start of the summer term back to Tuesday, May 3 and this event being staged on the second day of term, there was a real concern among the association officers that numbers might be well down – but their fears proved unfounded with nearly 200 pupils, including 90 from the Vale, taking part.

Reports of the sportshall successes of George Griffiths have already appeared during the first four months of the year. The Cowbridge pupil has followed that up with an excellent start to the outdoor season. Here, he opened with the top shot performance – an 11.60 metres put which gave him a 50 points lead in the junior boys' competition – the year-9 followed that with a 13.8 hurdles clocking and, by his standards, modest high and long jump performances of 1.50 metres and 5.96 metres to give a four event total of 2,051, and a lead of 156 points.

Even a third, relatively, modest trundle around in his least favourite event, the 800 metres, in 2:40.3, which added only another 130 points, brought a winning, final score of 2,181.

In second place, nearly 120 points behind, was team-mate Tom Trotman, the year-8 finishing on 2,028. It will be really interesting to see what sort of points score this duo can achieve when they really stretch themselves.

The second Cowbridge victory – from Annabel Curle in the junior girls' section – came after a ding-dong battle with Radyr pupil Claire Taylor.

Annabel opened brightly with a 4.30 metres long jump, but a weak shot (6.48 metres) and a not-as-swift-as-Claire hurdles timing of 13.0 seconds left her trailing by 31 points. With both year-9 girls clearing 1.40 metres in the high jump, it all came down to the 800 metres – and this is where the Cowbridge pupil had the upper hand!

Claire ran a steady 2:57.2 but Annabel was quicker with 2:51.8, earning an extra 53 points to claim the title with a score of 2,206.

The two Bryn Hafren disappointments involved year senior girl Ellie Carter in Sarah Herbert in the middles, with both athletes leading after four events but succumbing in the 800 metres.

Ellie started the competition with encouraging performances in the first three events – a 1.40 metres clearance in the high jump, 100 metres in 13.4 seconds and a 4.60 metres long jump – for a 1,600 points total and a lead of over 120. Event four – a modest 6.25 metres shot put – still brought an extended lead of nearly 200 points, but it all came unstuck in the 800 metres.

As nearest rival, Aimee Hendrickson (Bishop of Llandaff), stormed home in 2:45.5, Ellie took nearly another 25 seconds, earning nearly 230 fewer points. The outcome was a win for Hendrickson (2,231) with Ellie taking second on 2,191 points.

In the middle section, year-11 Sarah Herbert enjoyed an absorbing battle with year-10 pupils Laura Trigg (Cardiff High) and Lara Durrani (Glanfafa).

The Bryn Hafren pupil hung on over the first three events, at which point Trigg led with 1,373 from Durrani (1,311) with Herbert in third (1,190). Her strong event is the shot – event four – and she made it count, producing an 8.97 metres put, which was good enough to claim the lead on 1,652 points.

Sadly, it all came apart in the 800 as her 3:14.0 (246 points) run was well down on the trio of Trigg, Durrani and Danielle Green, who all clocked times around 2:51.0 for 450 points.

The final positions were: 1st Trigg 2,014; 2nd Durrani 1,985; 3rd Herbert 1,898; 4th Green 1,824.

Top Vale athlete in the middle boys' section was Barry Comprehensive pupil Matthew Collins. After his encouraging winter performances, both indoors and over the country, the Welsh Schools international made a solid start with a series of 15.8 seconds in the 100 hurdles, a 1.55 metres high jump, a best leap of 5.35 metres followed by a shot put of 9.73 metres, and a final 800 in 2:09.3 for 2,543 points, and second place behind St Teilo's year-11 Jonathan Bailey (2,705).

Former St Cyres pupil Bradley Cole, now studying at Barry College, has been making steady progress in the hammer and discus events, but here he showed that he has all-round ability.

Although not sufficiently experienced to trouble Welsh Schools international Jamaal Whyte (St Teilo's, 2,447), he pushed Nick Gallimore (Cardiff High, 2,260) very closely. A series which included a 51.29 metres javelin throw, the longest of the competition, plus a 13.5 seconds 100, a best of 4.42 metres in the long jump and a shot best of 10.15 metres, ended with third place for the Cogan resident



after a 3:17.6 run in the final event, the 1,000 metres.

Vale results

Senior Boys – Sixth Form – (JT, 100, LJ, SP, 1,000) 3 Bradley Cole Barry College 2231 (51.29, 13.5, 4.42, 10.15, 3:17.6); 5 Matt Logsdon Cowbridge 1838 (23.75, 14.0, 4.59, 9.62, 3:09.1); 6 Sam Bunkham Cowbridge 1792 (28.04, 13.4, 5.22, 8.48, 3:38.8); 7 Dillon Morgan Cowbridge 1695 (25.74, 14.2, 4.58, 9.09, 3:21.8); 8 Kyle Garrison Barry College 1200 (30.77, 14.7, 4.05, 5.80, 3:52.0). Middle Boys – Years 10 and 11 – (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 800)

2 Matthew Collins Barry Comp 2543 (15.8, 1.55, 5.35, 9.73, 2:09.3); 5 Matthew Roan St Cyres 2286 (17.2, 1.65, 5.30, 10.75, 2:27.3); 6 Jacob Briscoe Bro Morgannwg 2130 (17.2, 1.55, 5.30, 10.00, 2:30.0); 8 Ieuan Orton Bro Morgannwg 2031 (16.1, 1.60, 4.92, 8.40, 2:36.0); 9 Harri Williams Bro Morgannwg 2036 (17.3, 1.45, 4.90, 9.60, 2:22.9); 10 Harry Thomas Cowbridge 2017 (15.7, 1.40, 4.87, 8.82, 2:29.2); 13 Will Powell Barry Comp 1724 (19.8, 1.50, 4.79, 10.31, 2:37.9); 15 Elliot Clissold Barry Comp 1673 (19.1, 1.30, 4.36, 8.65, 2:20.2); 16 Scott Laken Cowbridge 1647 (18.5, 1.35, 5.13, 8.98, 2:43.0); 19 Tom Williams Stanwell 1596 (17.8, 1.45, 4.66, 7.43, 2:42.6); 25 Tom Griffiths Bro Morgannwg 1112 (23.2, 1.30, 4.30, 7.09, 2:39.3); Pat Frilles St Richard Gwyn Dnf (17.9, 1.30, 4.43); Rhys Thomas Bro Morgannwg Dnf (19.7, 1.35, 4.62); Jamie Deguara St Richard Gwyn Dnf (23.7, 1.25, 4.40).

Junior Boys – Years 8 and 9 – (SP, 80H, HJ, LJ, 800) 1 George Griffiths Cowbridge 2181 (11.60, 13.8, 1.50, 5.96, 2:49.3); 2 Tom Trotman Cowbridge 2028 (10.71, 14.1, 1.60, 5.24, 2:49.0); 8 Che Pomphrey Stanwell 1553 (7.78, 14.9, 1.20, 4.69, 2:33.4); 11 Ben Owen Llantwit 1487 (5.86, 17.0, 1.30, 4.70, 2:22.0); 12 Nico Wilson Barry Comp 1484 (8.88, 15.0, 1.35, 4.37, 2:50.8); 13 Callum Smith St Cyres 1477 (8.29, 17.4, 1.40, 4.80, 2:40.2); 16 James Walsh Bro Morgannwg 1445 (7.92, 15.6, 1.40, 4.57, 2:51.3); 18 Brad Rosser Cowbridge 1417 (8.37, 15.0, 1.25, 4.91, 3:01.6); 19 Luke Purnell Barry Comp 1391 (7.03, 16.2, 1.35, 4.40, 2:38.9); 22 Lloyd Hawkins Barry Comp 1352 (7.88, 15.8, 1.30, 4.53, 2:51.1); 28 Trenton Scantlebury St Cyres 1275 (8.07, 16.7, 1.25, 4.24, 2:44.0); 32 Dan Bell St Richard Gwyn 1166 (6.89, 16.9, 1.20, 4.16, 2:42.2); 33 Callum Tumilty Barry Comp 1165 (8.56, 15.6, 1.25, 3.96, Dnf); 34 Taylor Harris Bro Morgannwg 1163 (6.30, 15.9, 1.35, 4.10, 2:58.5); 38 Lloyd James St Richard Gwyn 1026 (6.45, 16.3, 1.20, 3.77, 2:53.7); 45 Josh Lewis Stanwell 862 (6.02, 17.4, 1.15, 3.33, 2:49.90); 46 Iwan Mepharm Bro Morgannwg 860 (7.82, Disq, 1.25, 4.33, 3:07.40); Luke Dawe St Richard Gwyn Dnf (5.76, 17.3, 1.20, 4.01); Tim Harry Stanwell Dnf (7.64, 18.1); Dafydd George Bro Morgannwg Dnf (6.71, 16.9, 1.25, 4.24).

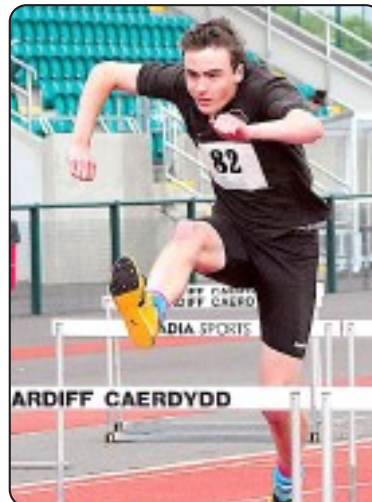
Senior Girls – Sixth Form – (HJ, 100, LJ, SP, 800) 2 Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 2191 (1.40, 13.4, 4.60, 6.25, 3:10.1); 6 Georgia Kemeys Cowbridge 1474



(1.10, 15.2, 3.62, 6.05, 3:01.1); 7 Georgina Jackson Cowbridge 1257 (1.20, 15.7, 3.52, 5.82, 3:28.5); 9 Leeanne Jones Llantwit 1142 (1.15, 15.3, 3.60, 6.00, Dnf); 10 Louise Edwards Cowbridge 1133 (1.10, 16.1, 3.21, 7.61, 3:36.0).

Middle Girls – Years 10 and 11 – (HJ, LJ, 80H, SP, 800) 3 Sarah Herbert Bryn Hafren 1898 (1.35, 3.86, 15.3, 8.97, 3:14.0); 4 Danielle Green St Richard Gwyn 1824 (1.30, 4.10, 16.1, 5.51, 2:51.0); 6 Chloe Phillips Llantwit 1719 (1.25, 3.82, 13.6, 6.68, 3:24.9); 7 Carys Knapman Bryn Hafren 1718 (1.25, 3.88, 14.2, 5.29, 3:07.0); 10 Miriam Bennett Cowbridge 1569 (1.20, 3.65, 16.1, 5.69, 2:58.1); 12 Catrin Cosier Bryn Hafren 1557 (1.35, 3.75, 16.8, 4.90, 3:07.1); 13 Caitlin Allin Cowbridge 1523 (1.30, 3.59, 15.4, 5.55, 3:19.3); 15 Bethan Yapp Bro Morgannwg 1483 (1.25, 3.65, 17.0, 5.90, 3:07.2); 17 Sophie Boyle Stanwell 1439 (1.30, 3.27, 16.5, 5.60, 3:11.3); 18 Erin Murray Stanwell 1431 (1.15, 3.72, 17.1, 5.39, 2:59.9); 19 Zoe Stevens Bro Morgannwg 1416 (1.15, 4.04, 15.1, 5.16, 3:28.9); 22 Kanisha Underdown Bryn Hafren 1341 (1.10, 4.04, 16.9, 3.95, 3:04.4); 27 Aimee Parsons Llantwit 1216 (1.25, 3.64, 17.2, 5.30, 3:39.4); 28 Rachel Hignett St Cyres 1138 (1.10, 3.42, 17.6, 4.81, 3:13.8); 29 Naomi Everitt Bryn Hafren 1127 (1.20, 3.40, 19.6, 5.38, 3:16.4); 30 Liz Whitehouse Cowbridge 1125 (1.05, 3.70, 16.8, 6.39, 3:44.0); 31 Madison Declaire Bro Morgannwg 973 (1.05, 4.08, 22.2, 5.89, 3:28.9); 32 Elle Gwatkin St Richard Gwyn 787 (1.10, 2.62, 17.8, 4.47, 3:44.0); 33 Maryam Chaudhry St Cyres 707 (1.00, 2.76, 18.0, 4.36, 3:44.0).

Junior Girls – Years 8 and 9 – (LJ, SP, 75H, HJ, 800) 1 Annabel Curle Cowbridge 2206 (4.30, 6.48, 13.0, 1.40, 2:51.8); 5 Jessica Morgan Bro Morgannwg 1718 (3.90, 5.82, 13.9, 1.30, 3:10.3); 7 Erin Hayes Llantwit 1592 (3.67, 4.86, 16.2, 1.10, 2:35.8); 10 Rachel Cosier Bryn Hafren 1486 (3.75, 5.59, 15.5, 1.20, 3:05.6); 15 Sarah Lewis Cowbridge 1306 (4.20, 4.20, 15.5, 1.20, 3:33.2); 16 Alice Nottingham Stanwell 1299 (3.76, 4.45, 16.3, 1.20, 3:13.2); 18 Phoebe Nixon Llantwit 1227 (3.40, 5.15, 16.1, 1.25, 3:27.8); 20 Chelsea Siirak Bro Morgannwg 1204 (4.21, 6.18, 18.2, 1.15, 3:36.3); 25 Caitlin Beer St Cyres 1131 (3.29, 5.18, 18.6, 1.20, 3:11.6); 26 Tamara Pitt Llantwit 1097 (3.76, 5.65, 18.0, 1.10, 3:25.3); 27 Chelsea Hutchinson Bryn Hafren 1040 (4.07, 4.18, 18.1, 1.05, 3:23.4); 30 Heulwin Hill St



Richard Gwyn 999 (3.50, 4.90, 18.0, 1.10, 3:24.8); 31 Mille Jones Bro Morgannwg 981 (3.42, 4.67, 16.6, 1.10, 3:36.9); 33 Alesha O'Connor St Richard Gwyn 927 (3.35, 4.85, 17.9, 1.10, 3:32.2); 36 Jennifer Hampton Bro Morgannwg 881 (3.23, 5.68, 18.7, 1.20, Dnf); 37 Caitlin Young Bro Morgannwg 774 (2.84, 4.85, 19.0, 1.10, 3:33.5); 39 Angharad Poole Cowbridge 549 (2.97, 4.04, 18.4, 0.00, 3:34.3); 41 Beth Johnson Stanwell 469 (2.71, 5.89, 25.1, 0.00, 3:29.0); Zoe Jenkins Bryn Hafren Dnf (3.68, 4.52, 15.0, 1.35); Ambra John St Richard Gwyn Dnf (3.79, 6.03, 16.2, 1.05); Tillie Carter Bryn Hafren Dnf (3.72, 4.75, 17.7, 1.20); Phoebe Paley Stanwell Dnf (3.12, 2.91, 18.3, 1.10); Menna George Bro Morgannwg Dnf (3.05, 4.92, 18.7, Dnc, 3:34.70); Abbie Hammett Bryn Hafren Dnf (2.73, 4.33, 19.4, 1.10).

Welsh Schools Combined Events Championships

After these championships, the following Vale pupils were selected to represent Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan district at the Welsh Schools' Combined Events championship to be held at Newport on Saturday, June 25th:

Senior Boys: Bradley Cole and Kyle Garrison (Barry College); Matt Logsdon and Dillon Morgan (Cowbridge).

Middle Boys: Matthew Collins, Elliot Clissold and Will Powell (Barry Comprehensive); Jacob Briscoe, Ieuan Orton & Harri Williams (Bro Morgannwg); Harry Thomas and Scott Laken (Cowbridge); Matthew Roan (St Cyres) and Tom Williams (Stanwell).

Junior Boys: Dafydd George (Bro Morgannwg); George Griffiths and Tom Trotman (Cowbridge); Che Pomphrey (Stanwell).

Senior Girls: Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren).

Middle Girls: Maisie Matthews (Bro Morgannwg); Sarah Herbert and Carys Knapman (Bryn Hafren); Chloe Phillips, Emma Worrall and Aimee Parsons (Llantwit) and Danielle Green (St Richard Gwyn).

Junior Girls: Jessica Morgan (Bro Morgannwg); Annabel Curle (Cowbridge); Erin Hayes (Llantwit).

The team managers are Miss Emma Williams (Bryn Hafren) and Mr Rhys Beynon (Bro Morgannwg).

David's success at Fairwood



ABOVE: Winners Dave Williams and Ryan Davies with sponsor Islwyn Rees.

THE monthly meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, held recently at the vastly improved Fairwood Park Golf Club situated in the heart of the Gower peninsula, attracted a lower than average attendance.

Once again, the fear of members being subject to a medal round rather than the more popular method of playing a stableford competition resulted in a number of questionable withdrawals.

With blustery, damp conditions prevailing it was no surprise that many struggled to perform to their usual standard. Unfortunately, the threat of super injunctions from Jim Hayes, Brian Jones and Clive Edwards has, on this occasion, prevented your correspondent from compiling an in depth report.

Leading the field at the end of an eventful day was David Williams, kitted out by neighbours and close friends in readiness for his trip later this month across the big pond.

A good back nine by David to finish with a



Keith James and Lyn Thomas looking for a calculator!

nett 78 was good enough to secure the Shrieval trophy, presented by the day's generous sponsor, Mr Islwyn Rees. Runner-up, also with a nett 78, was Aubrey Bowen, followed by Mark Rees, also with a nett 78 and Reg Davies who finished with a nett 79.

The guest section was won by Ryan Davies with a nett 85, followed by Peter Chatterton who finished with a nett 86.

Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Bryan Owen, Clive Edwards, Tony McCarthy and Reg Davies, while big hitting Godfrey Lewis collected the 'James Hog Roast' sponsored longest drive

prize. A lower than average number of lost balls (27) correctly guessed by treasurer Reg Davies, was good enough to win the 'Premier Turf' sponsored bottle of whisky, resulting in £85 being raised for the captain's nominated charity, Operation Christmas Child.

The society's next meeting is the annual trip across the Severn Bridge, scheduled for Friday, June 24 when members will be competing for the 'PJC International Classic' kindly sponsored by local estate agent Mr John Caines.

TMcC

Ski race is huge success at Rhoose

RHOOSE Lifeguard Club, supported by the Surf Lifesaving Association of Wales, hosted their annual Surf Ski Race recently.

The ski race, being race one of three, forms part of the British Ocean Ski Series, sponsored by Icon Surfcraft.

Despite very testing conditions due to winds gusting up to 33 mph, which meant the course had to be altered and shorter than previous years, 63 paddlers competed from around Great Britain.

Results: Under-16 Boys - 4km: Gold - Ryan Lark - Woolacombe; Silver - Robert Fielder - Portreath; Bronze - Matt Trehella - Portreath; Fourth - Kieran Knowles - Rhoose; Fifth - Will Parker - Rhoose.

Under-16 Girls - 4km: Gold - Emma Braggins - Rhoose; Silver - Anthea Young - Rhoose; Bronze - Charlotte Hewitt - Portreath; Fourth - Lauren Blake - Rhoose; Fifth - Kirsten Watts - Penybont; Sixth - Kathryn Gardner - Rhoose; Seventh - Tayla Edgerton - Rhoose; Eighth - Brittany Smalton - Hayle; Ninth - Caitlin Young - Rhoose; 10th - Laura Braggins - Rhoose; 11th - Sara Phillips - Rhoose.

Under-19 Boys - 8km: Gold - Tom Bolt - Portreath; Silver - Matt Hewitt - Portreath; Bronze - Tom Parker - Rhoose.

Under-19 Girls - 8km: Gold - Emily Corlin - Hayle; Silver - Teg Young - Rhoose; Bronze - Eloise Neighbour - Rhoose.

Senior Men - 12km: Gold - Ben Brown - Elmbidge; Silver - Ed

Evans - Poppit Sands; Bronze - Ivan Lawler - Elmbidge; Fourth - Simon Dark; Fifth - Jack Stadden - Royal; Sixth - Dan Latham - Hayle; Seventh - Graham Regan - Royal; Eighth - Steve Hardman - Shoreham; Ninth - George Haynes - Portreath; 10th - Simon Garbett - Portreath; 11th - Jordan Roberts - Hayle; 12th - Robin Kaye - Shoreham; 13th - Brandon Reese; 14th - James Grandfield - Rhoose; 15th - Nick Hibbard - Shoreham.

Senior ladies - 12km: Gold - Chloe Bunnett; Silver - Sian Gill.

Masters (35+) women - 8km: Gold - Karen O'Donoghue-Harris - Rhoose.

Masters (40+) men - 8km: Gold - Richard Lewis; Silver - Dave Kingman; Bronze - Colin Smith - Woolacombe; Fourth - Andy Parritt - Whitesand Bay; Fifth - Stuart Sherman - Southerndown; Sixth - Rob Knott; Seventh - Chris McSweeney - Worcester; Eighth - Richard Lark - Woolacombe; Ninth - Simon Parker - Rhoose; 10th - Gareth Harris - Sker; 11th - Hew Llewellyn; 12th - Chris Hewitt - Portreath; 13th - Mike Childs - Sker.

Doubles - 8km: Gold - Paul Gardner/Chris Braggins - Rhoose.

Aggregate trophy: First - Rhoose - 50pts; Second - Portreath - 30pts; Third - Woolacombe - 16pts; Fourth - Hayle - 6pts; Fifth - Southerndown - 6pts; Sixth - Whitesands - 5pts; Seventh - Penybont - 2pts.

Special thanks to the IRB crews and the support from the SLSA Wales Powercraft section - without the presence of the boats the race would not have gone ahead.

Also, many thanks to the competitors, organisers, and helpers who provided the BBQ, drinks, cakes and the raffle.

SE



PENDOYLAN COME OUT ON TOP IN NETBALL LEAGUE

EVERY Wednesday after school, Pendoylan pupils have been going to Cowbridge Leisure Centre to play netball against school teams from all over the Vale.

At the end of the season when all the teams had played, we had a presentation afternoon in our school. All the teams attended and each team received certificates.

Llansannor, St Fagans, All Saints, Peterston, St Brides, St Davids and

Pendoylan took part in the league.

Pendoylan were the winners. We were really glad to have been unbeaten throughout the tournament and St Davids (Colwynston) were runners up.

We were presented with a trophy, and after the presentation, we had refreshments and we then played on the field.

Thank you to all the schools that took part, everyone enjoyed participating.

Kaya and Brooke (Pendoylan netball team)

Sully Centurions' topsy turvy cricket season continues

SULLY CENTURIONS First XI were beaten at Cardiff, on a day when the second, third and fourth XI matches were rained off.

However, the weekend ended on a much more positive note with an 8 wicket Welsh Cup victory on Sunday.

Centurions' up and down season continued at Cardiff, where the current league leaders proved too strong for a Sully side missing some regular faces, due to unavailability and injury.

Batting first in a game reduced to 39 overs each due to the wet conditions, Centurions began losing wickets with regularity.

Jamie Sylvester, Chris Thorne and Julian Griffiths all went cheaply, but opener Ryan Sylvester kept Centurions' hopes alive with a fine innings.

However, when he was out for a deserved century, there were only 160 runs on the board for the loss of 6 wickets.

Gareth Sullivan, who was run out for 27, and David Eskins (19) were the only other batsmen to reach double figures as Centurions finished the allotted overs on 190 for 9.

The hosts' innings started badly when Buttidge and Kirtley found themselves back in the pavilion with only 18 runs on the board, with David Eskins and Ryan Sylvester taking the wickets.

But a magnificent third wicket stand of 171 between Thomas and Norman completely took the game away from Sully.

Lloyd Bruce finally bowled Thomas for 101, but this just brought in ex-Glamorgan man Matthew Maynard to hit the winning runs in the 32nd over.

Cardiff 191/3; Sully 190 for 9.

Centurions hosted Malpas in the second round of the Welsh Cup and ran out convincing winners by 8 wickets on a cold and blustery Sunday

afternoon at Burnham Avenue.

The visitors won the toss and opted to bat but were soon in trouble when Lloyd Smith had Collins caught behind by Gareth Davies for 5.

Lloyd next had Poyner trapped lbw for a duck, with the score on 31.

Martin and Griffiths added another 23 before two wickets were lost in quick succession, courtesy of Julian Griffiths and Jamie Sylvester.

A spirited fightback gave Malpas some hope, with opener Martin and number 8 batsman Morgan putting on 60 before Martin fell to a Jamie Sylvester catch off the bowling of Lloyd Smith for an excellent 91.

Morgan remained unbeaten at the end for a well deserved 50 as the innings closed on 195 for 7.

After tea, Jamie Sylvester and Chris Thorne wasted little time in chasing the target, with both batsmen hitting the boundary on several occasions.

The pair put on 156 for the first wicket - that of Chris Thorne, who was caught off the bowling of Poyner in the 22nd over.

He hit 12 fours and a six in his innings, was out two overs later, in his 74 and again off the bowling of Poyner, with the score on 169.

Lloyd Smith joined in the fun with a quickfire 25 not out, which included three sixes - and not to be left out, with the scores level, Gareth Sullivan hit Poyner for a big six to see Centurions home with 20 overs still remaining.

Centurions will face Usk in the next round.

Sully 201/2; Malpas 195/7. The club's first monthly 100 club draw was made on Saturday night with the winning numbers being 34, 33 and 31. The next draw will take place at the end of June.

MF

Under-8s lose out in semi-finals

COWBRIDGE fielded two teams in the under-8 age group competition in Kidwelly.

The Cowbridge Indians squad drawn in pool B consisted of: Sam Coates, Catrin Evans, Ben Farrell, Owen Godsall, Elis Greenwood, Harry Holtam, Ellis Howell, McKinley Parsons, Iwan Thomas and Dewi Williams.

Facing the Indians in the pool competition were stiff opposition in the form of four west Walian teams - Whitland, St Clears, Crymch and Kidwelly Blacks.

Cowbridge Indians 1, Whitland 4: A slow start to the competition by the Indians saw Whitland score two early tries before a response from Cowbridge by Dewi Williams. The short single period games made recovering a deficit difficult, and the Indians eventually went down by four tries to one.

Cowbridge Indians 1, St Clears 6: This was a better performance by the Indians team

than the scoreline suggests. The Indians' defence, however, was no match for a rampant St Clears' attack with some excellent fast and decisive runners. Elis Greenwood crossed for the Indians' only try of the game.

Cowbridge Indians 3, Crymch 5: With individual performances and team effort still improving the Indians put up a good show against the group winners, Crymch matching them try for try up to 3-3, with another two tries from Elis G supplemented by one from Harry Holtam.

With the score line at 4-3 in Crymch's favour, Cowbridge nearly crossed the line for the equaliser but the tackle count came up and Crymch ran in a long distance affair to score the winner.

Cowbridge Indians 3, Kidwelly Blacks 3: The stage was set for a Pool B showdown in the final game of this section of the competition, with both teams waiting for their elusive first win of the day. With the weather clos-

ing in after what had been a beautiful sunny day, both teams matched each other try for try throughout the game.

Dewi Williams got the all important first try followed by two excellently worked tries from Owen Godsall.

The Indians scraped through into the plate competition, having scored the first try in the game against Kidwelly.

Under-8 Plate semi final:

Cowbridge Indians 1, Fishguard Seagulls 4: The heavens opened for the semi-finals, which were played in torrential rain, hail, thunder and lightning.

Both Cowbridge and Fishguard struggled in the conditions, not to mention the supporters and reporters on the sideline. Iwan Thomas Bartle crossed for the final Cowbridge try of the competition but despite some committed defence, the Indians could not stop the Seagulls from progressing to the final.

GW

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NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £365,000



Formerly farm outbuildings converted to a three storey family home in a mews with a rural setting comprises Living Room, Dining Room, Farmhouse Kitchen with exposed beams, Boiler Room, Cloakroom, Bathroom/Shower Room, Double glazed windows. Four Bedrooms to first floor and Two/Three Bedrooms to second floor. Garden Room with wood burning stove. Garage. Parking and Gardens. Ref 586D

NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £275,000



Circa 1800 stone built semi detached cottage situated in the West End which has been refurbished and renovated comprising Porch, Living room with inglenook fireplace, Dining room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Two bedrooms, En-suite bathroom, Shower Room, Double glazed box sash windows. Gas central heating. Oak flooring. Walled garden to front and terraced garden to the rear Ref 588D

NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £220,000



A substantial three storey property with flat above and two successful ground floor business ventures located in the town centre. Living accommodation comprises Five Bedrooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Living Room, Modern Bathroom. Gas Central Heating. Freehold Ref 589D

NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £330,000



Individually designed modern four bedroom detached house and garage first occupied in 1998 and situated in a sought after area comprising Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room, Utility Room, En-suite to Master bedroom, Family Bathroom. Gas central heating. Double glazing. Long driveway and well maintained gardens to front and rear. Freehold Ref 590D

NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £249,500



Modern four bedroom detached house and garage situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Modern Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows. Gas fired central heating. Mature well stock gardens to front, side and rear. Freehold Ref 591D

NEW LLANTWIT MAJOR - £215,000



Detached four bedroom family house and garage comprising Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Dining Room, Lounge with sliding doors to rear garden, Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Driveway and garden to front and rear. Freehold Ref 592D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £257,500



Well maintained modern four bedroom detached house with garage and conservatory to the rear situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room with patio doors to Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, En-suite to master bedroom, Family Bathroom. Double glazed windows. Gas fired central heating. Driveway and gardens to front and rear. Freehold Ref 474D

ST ATHAN - £92,000



Modern three bedroom link house comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room with patio doors to rear, Bathroom/WC. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Utility Room. Open aspect to the front and enclosed rear garden. Freehold Ref 480D

NEW PRICE ST ATHAN - £119,950



Modern three bedroom semi-detached house comprising hallway, Lounge/Diner with French doors to rear garden, Fitted Kitchen, Newly fitted Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Open plan garden to front and garden to the rear. Ref 505D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £259,000



Very well maintained spacious three bedroom detached house with garage and conservatory set in good size gardens situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Luxury Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Landscaped rear garden. Freehold Ref 507D

ST ATHAN VILLAGE - £195,000



Detached three/four bedroom dormer bungalow with garage situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Modern Bathroom, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room. Two bedrooms to ground floor and further two bedrooms and cloakroom to first floor. UPVC double glazing. Gas fired central heating. Driveway and good size gardens. Freehold Ref 514D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £189,995



Modern three bedroom detached house comprising Reception Hall/Study, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room with patio doors to rear, Utility Area, Cloakroom/WC, Modern Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Driveway and good size gardens to front and rear. Ref 543D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £134,500



Well maintained three bedroom end of terrace house with garage situated in a block comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Modern Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas fired central heating. Garden to front and rear. Freehold Ref 559D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £180,000



Modern three bedroom semi-detached house situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, 2nd reception room (formerly the garage), Fitted Kitchen, Rear Hall/Utility area, Modern Bathroom. Double glazed windows and doors. Gas fired central heating. Driveway and gardens to front and rear. Freehold Ref 570D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £97,500



Purpose built two bedroom first floor flat which forms part of a retirement housing development comprising Reception Hall with walk-in cupboard, Shower Room, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen. Gas fired central heating. Communal facilities of laundry room and guest suite. Parking. Leasehold Ref 574D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £239,950



Modern well presented extended family bungalow and garage comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Dining Room, Conservatory, Ground floor Bathroom, Two bedrooms to ground floor and Master bedroom with en-suite to first floor. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas fired central heating. Garden to front and rear. Freehold Viewing recommended Ref 577D.

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £225,000



Well maintained established four bedroom detached house and attached garage comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom. Gas fired central heating. Double glazed windows and doors. Driveway and neatly laid gardens to front and rear. Freehold Ref 581D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £125,000



Modern well maintained three bedroom family house comprising Hallway, Lounge, Modern fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Cloakroom, Modern Bathroom. Solid fuel Heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Open plan garden to front and low maintenance rear garden with rear access. Freehold Ref 587D.

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Civic Trust tries once again in regeneration land sale stand-off

PORHCRAWL Civic Trust Society is again appealing to the Information Commissioner against the refusal of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to divulge the exact acreages of the land within the Porthcawl regeneration area.

Similar requests made by The GEM to the council for this information have also been rejected.

The society had already asked the Information Commissioner to intervene over previous refusals by the council to divulge this information.

The GEM asked the council to explain discrepancies in the total acreages of land being quoted in recent reports as the holdings of the council and the Evans Families.

In 2006, a report from the council's property manager said that the regeneration area comprised 93 acres – 51 acres owned by the council and 41 acres either owned or leased by the Evans Families.

However, in a reply to The GEM last month, the council stated that the overall amounts of land covered by the Owners Agreement, which the council recently signed with the Evans Families, consist of 103 acres for the Evans Families – which includes the beach at Coney beach – and 80 acres for the council.

The GEM asked for clarification about the sudden increase in the acreages involved but has not received an explanation. Once again, the council has refused to specify where this land is and the acreage of each

Report by JAYNE ISAAC

parcel. In its reply, the council said that the figures quoted in the 2006 report do not include areas of land that cannot be developed, such as the beach.

More recent reports have included land that can be developed and land that cannot.

However, the council states that the value of the land that can be developed has "remained consistent" throughout the various reports and has formed the basis of the Owners' Agreement.

This information has also been denied to the Porthcawl Civic Trust Society and this is what they have now appealed against.

A spokesman for the society said that they could not make the figures add up. The society can only find about 20 acres of developable land which is either owned or leased by the Evans' – not the 41 acres originally claimed and not the 103 acres now being stated.

The differential cannot be explained even if the whole of the beach from high water to low water is included in the total.

The Evans' lease Salt Lake car park, amounting to about nine acres, and the 2.5 acres of leased land at the Monster Park which is privately owned. They also own the Fairground which is estimated at about 10 acres.

The council was shown in 2006 to own 51.5 acres – but Sandy Bay alone is said to be 54 acres, plus the land the council owns at Hillsboro Place, The Green and the roads.

The Civic Trust Society fears that the council has based the

owners' agreement on flawed land ownership figures produced in 2006 which have skewed the way in which profits should be divided between the two parties.

The council is claiming that overall, it will get 60 per cent of the profits with the rest going to the Evans.

But confidential documents show that a deal was done, giving the Evans 72 per cent of the supermarket part of the phase one profits, with 28 per cent going to the council.

The society has called in the auditors to take another look at the deal and has been told that they are investigating again.

The council has also refused to say who would buy out the freehold of the Monster Park. The site is leased by the Evans' and The GEM asked if the freehold would be bought by them out of their £15m guaranteed share of the profits from the overall regeneration scheme – £5m from phase one and £10m from phase two.

The council has refused to answer, stating that a third party is involved and the matter is commercially confidential.

In the meantime, newly-elected Porthcawl independent councillor Graham Walter is demanding to know why a meeting of the Porthcawl Regeneration Forum has not been called since last December.

"I understand that these meetings should be held every three months so why hasn't there been a meeting since December?" he asked.

"The BCBC regenera-

tion officer told Porthcawl Town Council on March 24 that public consultation over phase one of the regeneration, which includes the building of the Tesco supermarket, would be taking place in May or June. May has gone and nothing has been announced for June, so what's happening?"

He stated that people in Porthcawl are concerned that all they will get is a Tesco, a couple of new roads and precious little else, at least for 10 years.

A BCBC spokesperson said: "Since the last Porthcawl Regeneration Forum meeting in December, good progress has been made on the development contract and the first phase plans will shortly be ready for consultation."

"The developers, Chelverton Decey Freed, will present their proposals to the next forum meeting, and they will also make the same presentation to town centre traders and Porthcawl Town Council."

"This will be followed by the public exhibition which is likely to take place in July. In addition, the preferred contractor for the Porthcawl Harbour project has now been selected and will be invited to attend the next forum to discuss different aspects of the project."

"Although it has been a number of months since the last forum meeting, significant and complex work to progress the plans has needed to take place in order to get to this stage."

"The authority has considered it sensible to wait for the time when the developers have something significant and meaningful to present to forum members."

"The authority is in the process of producing a special County Borough Bulletin that will focus on Porthcawl and will be circulated to all residents and businesses shortly."

"A newsletter is also being sent out to the local traders on a quarterly basis to keep them updated."

LOCAL PACT MEETINGS

BRACKLA PACT public meeting at Brackla Junior School, Bridgend on Thursday June 9 at 6.30pm.

BRYNTIRION, LALESTON & MERTHYR MAWR PACT at Laleston Gardening Club, Laleston on Thursday, June 9 at 7pm.

MORFA WILDMILL PACT at Community Hub, The Precinct, Wildmill on Thursday, June 9 at 6.30pm.

NEWCASTLE PACT at the Civic

Offices, Angel Street on Tuesday, June 9 at 6.30pm.

FELINDRE, HENDRE & PEN-PRYSG (PENCOED) PACT at the Welfare Hall, Heol Y Groes on Wednesday, June 29 at 6.30pm.

OLDCASTLE PACT, The Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Wednesday, July 6 at 6.30pm.

MORFA TOWN at Penybont Primary School, Minerva Street on Monday, July 11 at 6.30pm.



PHOTOS by JULIE HANCOCK

PENCOED Phoenix held their second presentation night, with a new sponsor Andrew Mills of Phoenix Property Agents.

The team celebrated a development league trophy, a promotion to division 1 and playing 18 games, winning 14 and losing four in their first 18 months in rugby.

Top try scorer of the year was Casely. JH

Sam Humphrey; improved player was Alana Shakespeare, while most promising player was Sarah Hughes.

Amy Stevens won the supporters player award; club person of the year went to Michele Halse, the players' player was Lowri Reeves, player of the year went to Marina Newth, and the merit award went to Leanne

Phoenix celebrate success at evening

LEFT: Captain Marina Newth with chairman Terry Rees with the development trophy



Bridgend pupils get taste of military life – and new career



ABOVE: Bridgend College pupils Alex Ferguson (17), David Hawkins (18), Peter Driscoll (17), Luke James (17), Jack Price (17), and Kurt Jones (18).

DRAGON'S March 2011, south Wales's largest military education event, welcomed pupils from St Johns, Maesteg Comprehensive, Ynysawdre Comprehensive, Ysgol Twyn and Bridgend College to experience a taste of the 144 skills and trades on offer in the Army for themselves.

The four-day event at Margam County Park in Port Talbot was attended by more than 3,500 young people from 38 schools across south Wales.

Experts from each Army regiment in Wales were on hand to promote the diverse range of training opportunities provided by an Army career.

Those in attendance included the Parachute Regiment, the Royal Logistic Corps, the Army Medical Services team as well as the Harrogate and Winchester Army Foundation Colleges, which are actively recruiting school leavers for courses beginning in

September.

Kurt Jones, a student at Bridgend College, said: "I never realised there were some many different jobs to choose from in the Army and it's been great to talk to real soldiers about their day jobs and what an Army career involves."

"It's also been great fun trying out the assault course, learning how to change a wheel with the Royal Engineers and seeing a live demo of how an Army unit would clear an enemy zone."

Lt Col Bob Slay, who heads up Army recruiting across Wales added: "The Army is one of the

few employers able to offer young people a guaranteed job and skills and trades that convert well for life outside the Army and Dragon's March is all about getting young people involved, having fun and learning a few new things along the way.

"It teaches them how to work as a team, communicate better with each other and builds their confidence, as well as opening their eyes to the 144 skills and trades on offer with a career in the Army."

Scorpions kickstarting activity in Bridgend

DELIVERING a mixture of Korean Martial Arts and Tae Kwon Do, the Scorpions Kickboxing Club continues to kick-start physical activity around the local communities of Bridgend.

From a successful community club, the Scorpions have now linked to Bridgend's Active Young People Department to become part of the 5x60 extracurricular activity in local schools.

Delivering an enjoyable high tempo, high energy work out, children have the opportunity to increase their fitness levels and flexibility, while encouraging traditional martial arts qualities of discipline and concentration.

Porthcawl Comprehensive is an example of this work. Working closely with Bridgend Council's active young people officer Daniel Griffiths and the PE Department, the Scorpions have delivered an array of taster sessions to both female and male classes across the age groups, and provided extra curricular activity through 5x60 sessions.

The link has provided pupils with an

opportunity to sample something new and challenging, through the skills of the Scorpions' Dave Thorington.

To date, the club has engaged over 200 pupils and as a result has gained 15 new male and around 12 female members, displaying the impact and popularity of the sessions.

This has been a reward for the effort and skill Dave has put into sessions.

Another positive outcome from the close link between the Scorpions and the young people's department resulted in the club receiving funding from Sport Wales to renew equipment, which will enable them to continue to deliver the diverse 5x60 sessions that have been enjoyed throughout the schools.

New kick shields, focus pads, and Thai kick pads will allow participants to work on an array of techniques, and enjoy developing new skills.

If you are a club coach or member looking to develop club links within the schools through Dragon Sport or the 5x60 initiative in the Porthcawl area, then please e-mail Daniel.griffiths@bridgend.gov.uk to discuss.

Busy days for the Sandville!

A busy month lies ahead for the Sandville Self Help Centre at Tŷn Kenfig, starting with a curry and pint night at 7pm on June 10. Tickets £5; raffle, bingo and quiz.

The Sandville sponsored walk takes place on Saturday June 11. Meet at 2.30pm and leaving Sandville court at 3pm. Followed by A 'bar-b-q' at 6pm.

A charity night will be held at The Bengal Lounge Kenfig Hill in aid of the Sandville self help centre on June 20 from 6.30pm to midnight.

Telephone 01656 743123/744267 for details.

Enduro Classic event is a Rest Bay highlight

THIS Sunday (June 5) will see Britain's top ocean men and women battle it out in the first leg of the British Legacy Super Series 2011 at Rest Bay Beach.

The enduro classic event is part of a three-race series where top men and women from all over Britain compete to become the best ocean men and ocean women.

The event will feature some of Bridgend's top

athletes. Craig Robinson, Sam Moore, Glenn Clatworthy and the Rosewell brothers, to name a few, will be challenging for the men's title, along with Rhian Thomas for the open women's.

Ashley Lewis, Tom Parry and Kirstin Watts are ones to watch out for in the youth section.

The event starts at 3pm, with family beach games taking place from 1pm-3pm. If you feel like a day at the beach, come down to Rest Bay and support Bridgend's top surf life savers as they take on the challenge of Britain's best surf life savers in the Enduro Classic.



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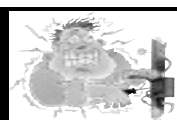
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Letter of applications along with your CV and two referees to be forwarded to Mrs Carol James Town Clerk, Bridgend Town Council, Council Offices, Glanogwr Road, Bridgend CF31 3PF.
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Public Notices

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Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Priory Estates & Lettings, 106 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AJ. Tel: 01446 744750 before exchange of contracts.

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DINAS WIN THROUGH TO KNOCKOUT STAGES

DINAS POWYS needed a win or draw in the final game of the Carruthers Shield league stage to win through to the knockout stage.
Travelling to Ely Valley, current champions Dinas knew that they would have to be at their best to come away with the required points to progress to the knockout stage.
A loss would give Ely Valley a chance to progress if they defeated Sully in next week's final league stage game.
As expected, the game was a tense affair in the early stages, with Dinas up on only one rink.
There were not many shots in the game throughout with Dinas trailing one shot at 10 ends, and three up at 18 ends.
With three rinks completed and two ends to go on Gary Williams' rink, Dinas were two shots down.
Gary's rink scored 1 on the penultimate end, needing to win the final end to secure the win or draw required.
An exciting end with virtually every shot changing the score, saw the Dinas four win by one securing the draw

Barry Athletic's early form continues

BARRY Athletic's A team maintained their promising early season form with a 76 shots to 61 win against Cardiff Athletic at Barry Island on Saturday.
It was the Athletic's second successive win in their WBA Private Greens Division 2 programme and brought them another 12 points.
Ivor Stevenson confidently skipped the top rink to an impressive 24-11 victory that was achieved by an all-round rink display featuring Albert Mintern at no.3 and front bowlers Clive Phillips and Barrie Turner playing their part in the big win.
Gareth Humphreys was back to winning form with a 21-10 triumph in a rink that included Alan Thomas at lead, club chairman Alf Pidduck and Dave Newman at no.3.
Colin Spillane's rink was involved in a close affair throughout a blustery afternoon but some exceptional bowling by skip Colin clinched a 17-14 score with Don Evans, captain Paul Clarke and John Ball giving ample support.
However, there was no joy for regular PG2 skip Billy Wright on this occasion as his lineup of Eric Booker, Derek Coombs and Bill Summrell went down 14-26.
On Saturday, the first team open their PG1 campaign with a home fixture against Whitchurch and the second squad face a tough test at Merthyr West End.
Scores: D Evans, P Clarke, J Ball, C Spillane 17-14;
A Thomas, A Pidduck, D Newman, G Humphreys 21-10;
C Phillips, B Turner, A Mintern, I Stevenson 24-11;
E Booker, D Coombs, B Summrell, B Wright 14-26.

Public Notice

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL LEGAL, PUBLIC PROTECTION, & HOUSING SERVICES

MARRIAGE ACT 1994 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

Take notice that the above department has received the following application under the above Act from The Luxury Hospitality Group for Holm House, Marine Parade Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 3BG to be a premise approved as a venue for Marriage and Civil Partnership Ceremonies.
This application and associated plans are available for public inspection between 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.
Any person wishing to object to the grant of this approval should write to the above address giving reasons for their objection within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Peter H Evans
Director of Legal, Public Protection
& Housing Services



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG GWASANAETHAU CYFREITHIOL AMDDIFFYN Y CYHOEDD A THAI DEDDO PRIDOD 1994 A DEDDO PARTNERIAETH SIFIL 2004

Hysbysu dwey hyn fod yr adran a enwir uchod wedi derbyn y cais canlynol o dan y Ddeddf uchod gan The Luxury Hospitality Group ar gyfer Holm House, Marine Parade Penarth, Bro Morgannwg, CF64 3BG i fod yn safle cymeriad ar gyfer cynnal Semonioau Priodas a Partneriaeth Sifil.
Gall seicodau'r cyhoedd weld manylion y cais a'r cynlluniau cyfreithiol rhwng 9.00a.m. a 4.00p.m. o dydd Llun i dydd Gwener yn y Swyddkwydd Dineig, Heol Holton, Y Bwrdd CF63 4RU.
Os ydych chi'n dymuno gwrthwynebu'r cais hwn, dylech anfon gwrthwynebiad ysgrifenedig yn cynnwys rhesymau i'r cyfeirir uchod cyn pen 21 diwrnod ar ôl cyhoeddi'r hysbysiad hwn.

Peter H Evans
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol,
Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a Thai

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS FOR FIVE VALE ATHLETES IN THE WINTER PROGRAMME

FIVE Vale athletes will be hoping that they can build on their impressive winter performances to gain further international honours.

Heading the quartet, and surely a candidate for high honours in any Vale Sportsman of the Year award, is Curtis Mathews.

The former Barry Comprehensive pupil, now studying for his degree at UWIC in Cardiff, is working hard to improve in all of the 10 events in his chosen competition – the decathlon.

The Barry & Vale Harrier had an early start to his indoor season, competing in the standard senior men's indoor combined events competition – the heptathlon, seven events – at the England Athletics Indoor Combined Events Championships, held at Sheffield on January 8-9.

The tone was set on day one for what may be a very interesting year. The series of 60 metres (7.40), long jump (6.66 metres), shot (13.43 metres) and pole vault (3.80 metres) was followed by a second day of 60 metres hurdles (8.68), high jump (1.86 metres) and 1,000 metres (2:50.77) to give a seven event total of 4,912 points – good enough for third place.

It also earned the UWIC student a first call-up for the Great Britain & Northern Ireland team to compete in a Combined Events International against France at the same Sheffield venue.

That first GB international proved to be the stage for pleasing improvements in the 60 metres (7.29), long jump (6.96 metres) and the shot (13.72 metres). With results in the high jump (1.86 metres), pole vault (3.80 metres) and 1,000 metres (2:50.58) similar to January, and the only small blip being the 60 metres hurdles (8.76), an improved score of 5,097 points, nearly 200 points better than January, was a result good enough for fourth place and third scorer for the winning GB team.

The Barry & Vale Harrier has already been in action in the outdoor season, including a first decathlon as a guest at Millfield on May 7-8, when he posted a score of 6,898 points to head the field. That will give him great encouragement as he targets a first outdoor GB under-20 international appearance.

Two 'younger' pupils still at Barry Comprehensive and also members of Barry & Vale Harriers have also made their international debut.

Year-11 Matthew Edwards has had an excellent winter over the country, and his reward has been two international

selections – for Welsh Athletics and Welsh Schools, at under-17 level.

Following the McCain Cardiff Cross-Country Challenge at Blackweir on Sunday, January 16, he was selected to represent Welsh Athletics at the Celtic International at Antrim. At that event, he finished credibly and headed the winning Welsh team.

On March 16, he just missed out on an individual medal in the middle (years 10 and 11) boys section at the Aviva Welsh Schools Golden Celebration National cross-country championships, finishing fourth, but was a scoring member of the Cardiff & the Vale Schools squad, which easily claimed the team title.

That fourth place was enough to earn Matthew selection for the Welsh schools team, which competed at the Aviva SIAB schools international at Antrim on Saturday, April 26, against the top young athletes from English schools, All-Ireland schools and Scottish schools. After a marathon journey to Antrim on the Friday, he finished 27th, fifth scorer for the Welsh team, which finished fourth.

Following those two appearances, the Beatty Close resident had hoped for a third selection – to compete for the Welsh Schools under-17 team at the Virgin Money Giving Mini London Marathon – but, having been included in the non travelling reserves rather than competing squad of six, he was disappointed that there was no late call-up when Mike Ward (Llanishen) broke his collar-bone on the Wednesday before the marathon.

In the summer, he will be hoping for further honours at 1,500 metres, or possibly 1,500 metres steeplechase.

The second Barry Comprehensive pupil to gain international selection was multi-talented Matthew Collins.

The year-10 pupil should have made his debut for Welsh Schools in the under-16 age group (years 9 and 10) at the SIAB Indoor Combined Events international at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow in early December, but the weather caused that event to be postponed until early February.

As a result, his first international appearance was for the Welsh Schools Dragons team at the Celtic Schools under-16 Indoor International at the National Indoor Athletics Centre at Cyncoed on January 30.

On that debut, he finished third in the match 800 metres in 2:08.44, and was disappointed not to be included in the 4 x 200 metres relay squad.

On the following weekend, the SIAB Indoor Combined Events International was held in

Glasgow – and Matthew gained both his full Welsh Schools vest and a gold medal. In a competition where, unusually, Scottish schools were found to have fielded over age competitors, Matthew chalked up performances of 10.05 seconds (60m Hurdles), 5.61 metres (long jump), 24.43 seconds (200 metres), 10.04 metres (shot) and 2:11.52 (800 metres) with his five event total of 2,756 points earning eighth place.

With Welsh schools providing the individual winner – Aled Price (3,080 points) – and team-mate Luke Ward finishing sixth (2,826 points), the three-athlete total of 8,662 points was just good enough to hold off the challenge from All-Ireland (8,625) and English schools (8,605) to gain the team gold medals.

Having started the 2010 outdoor season with encouraging performances over 800 metres, Matthew has hit a temporary plateau during the indoor season, but he has made the most of his opportunities over 200 metres and his opening outing over 400 metres at the recent South Wales Regional championships at Leckwith, where he won with a sub 52 seconds time, suggest that there is real potential for international selection at that distance later this summer.

A second year-10, Stanwell pupil Tom Williams, also gained international selection at the Celtic Schools under-16 international. The talented sprinter/long jumper, who had double under-15 victory at the 2010 Welsh Schools championships, was included in the 60 metres, 200 metres and the 4 x 200 metres relay squad.

A 60 metres victory in 7.36 seconds set him up nicely for an excellent afternoon which included the fastest 200 metres performance (23.67 seconds) and a storming last leg in the relay to bring the team home first, and help Welsh Schools win the match.

Tom will need to show great patience this summer as he comes up against the bigger, more powerful year-11 sprinters and jumpers, but he has the potential to go on to make his mark.

Seren Allin was the final member of the 'Vale 5' to gain international selection. The year-7 pupil had an outstanding first winter on the schools' circuit, claiming a league points and championships double in Cardiff & the Vale Schools competitions, taking a schools' individual medal in the year-7 race at the McCain Cross Challenge in January, winning the year-7 race at the Welsh Schools National championships in March and representing south Wales region in

the under-13 race at the McCain Counties Athletic Union championships at Birmingham.

As a result, the Cowbridge pupil was one of only two year-7 pupils included in the Welsh Schools under-13 (years 7 and 8) which competed at the Virgin Money Giving Marathon Mini Marathon in April. She ended the long winter season in style, finishing 24th and third Welsh scorer out of 65 finishers.

Hopefully, this summer will be relatively low key for Seren with the Welsh Athletics under-13 championships and schools and club fixtures – she belongs to Bridgend Athletics Club – as the main targets.

PETER MORRIS

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND-UP

Cricketing encounter with XL team plenty of fun for players

FOOTBALL
THE Urd National Sevens for football were held at Dolau playing fields in Aberystwyth. After a very early start, the boys looked forward to their day of football playing against teams from all over Wales.

Under-15s (year-10): v Dyffryn Teifi (Cardigan) won 3-0, goals by Todd Wilcox, Rhys Cogan, Scott Laken; v Tregaron drew 0-0; v Bryn Tawe (Swansea) drew 0-0.

The boys finished second in their group and played Amman Valley in the quarter finals, losing eventually 2-1; goal by Scott Laken.

Under-13s (year-8): v Dyffryn Amman drew 0-0; v Penweddig (Aberystwyth) lost 1-0; v Glyn Y Mor (Swansea) drew 0-0; v Llanharri lost 2-3.

The main problem of the year-8 team was scoring goals.

Several chances went begging during the day with many players missing opportunities.

CRICKET
THE annual fixture versus the XL Club was held at the Cowbridge Cricket Club recently.

The weather was kind and stayed dry all day for the school 1st XI to play their only fixture of the season.

This fixture has been on the school calendar since the days of the Grammar School and Cowbridge Comprehensive School is still the only school that plays against the XL Club, where the other parts of Wales play as regional representative school matches.

The XL club is made up of senior players from right across South Wales who take the game to the schools.

Traditionally, Cowbridge

Comprehensive School has done well with past players Ben Wright, Alex Jones, Tom Merilaht, Mike Lloyd, Nick Davies and Adam George Weaver, to mention a few, doing really well in the match.

This year that tradition was upheld with captain Adam Wood winning the toss, deciding to bat first with his younger brother Sam Wood.

Finding the pace bowling of the XL team to their liking, Adam and Sam set off at a steady pace scoring five an over off the first 10 overs.

Adam reached his 50 first with Sam soon to follow off the bowling of Hugh Williams.

Sam overtook his brother and scored his maiden century and retired on 103 not out.

The opening partnership of 183 will be a target for other schools in Britain to beat as the many games are played over the summer.

The school declared early for tea at 237 for 4 with Adam (74) and Alex Kurobasa (30 not out) (Steve Matthews (3 for 30), Glan Williams (1 for 25)).

In this declaration game of cricket, the team fielding second has to bowl the opposition out to win the game, and Adam Wood and his team had given themselves roughly 45 overs to do this.

Openers Steve Matthews (Penttyrch) and Wil Lloyd (Swansea) set off to chase the total, but unfortunately Lloyd received a superb ball off Jack Davies (year-11) and was clear bowled.

John Brazier soon followed caught and bowled by Wil Antoni. John James (Pontardawe), partnering Matthews, started to build the innings before being bowled by A Kurobasa

for 29.



The School First XI.



The XL Club Team

umpires Dave Fiddler and John Spadz.

The under-15s played Pontardulais Comprehensive School in the first round of the Lord Taverners Schools national competition.

This game was played at the Pontardulais Cricket Club with captain Sam Wood winning the toss and asking the home team to bat first.

Todd Wilcox removed both Welsh under-15 international cricketers with his special slower ball.

Wickets fell at regular intervals with the home team being all out for 92 in 30 overs.

In reply, Todd Wilcox and Sam Wood put on 50 for the first wicket when

Wood was out, caught sweeping.

Todd soon followed for a good 32 but for the rest of the batsmen, the least said the better, as the school team were bowled out for 88.

A very disappointing end to the game, one the school team should have won comfortably; Pontardulais Comprehensive 92 all out.

Todd Wilcox 2 for 17; Rafi Shirzad 1 for 18; Oliver Pike 2 for 12; Jonathan Harvey 2 for 10; Rhys Logan 2 for 10; Cowbridge Comprehensive 88 all out; Todd Wilcox (32), Sam Wood (12).



England, Wales and Ireland in the under-16 (years 9 and 10) age group at the SIAB Indoor Combined Events at Glasgow in February.

Disappointment for the bowlers as they exit cup

CADOXTON V SULLY – MUNRO CUP
FOUR first season bowlers were included in the Cadoxton team in this home Munro Cup fixture, against Sully.

It resulted in a win for the visitors with three successful rinks, and one comfortable win for the home side, skipped by Graham Brown against David Curtis.

Kelvin Chedgoy failed narrowly with his rink against John Best, while John Stewart had a struggle to stay in contact with Peter Rogers in the early stages, but made a spirited comeback, to just one shot behind with two ends left.

A '6' on the penultimate end stopped the complete recovery.

Ivor Robertson met Carl Best and their rinks had a close game with the scores level on 4, 5, 6, and 8; however, the

final six ends went in favour of the visitors.

T Bishop, D Evans, H Craven, G Brown

17; A Kelly, A Rees, H Jones, D Curtis 8.

G Solomon, M Matthews, L Davies, K Chedgoy 15;

A David, C Michael, D Edwards, J Best 17.

J Maidment, K Tanner, R Cole, J Stewart

16; E Pryer, A Marsh, S Dibble, P Rogers 23.

S Clarke, G Davies, J Sugden, I Robertson

8; B Curtis, G John, D Hoitchkiss, C Best 15.

Score: 56 – 63.

CADOXTON V Pencoed – CARRUTHERS

ONLY one winning rink was achieved by Cadoxton at Pencoed on a very difficult green, with the lines very peculiar.

Howard Craven was the winning skip and after 8 ends held a 9-2 lead.

The advantage was held throughout the game, although a '5'

against on the final end reduced the lead to just a single shot.

Don Kuhnell found it difficult on his rink to get on the scoreboard, and trailed 8-0 after five ends.

When a single was scored on the next the mat was shortened and they got back into the game, with seven winning ends from the following nine.

By the 18th end the deficit was 2, but a '4' against on the next opened a six-shot gap.

This was reduced to just one over the final two ends.

On Kelvin Chedgoy's rink, despite winning 12 of the 20 ends played, going into the final end, they were one shot behind. A '6' was conceded on the last.

Six singles were scored in the first 12 ends by the rink skipped by Graham Brown, while the opposition scored 10 shots.

During the next five ends another single was scored with 12 against which opened a greater deficit. This was cut by seven over the next three ends before a '2' against finalised the game.

P Ellis, M Matthews, J Crout, G Brown 14;

R Armstrong, W Preddy,

P Ellis, D Hopkins 24.

L Tanner, G Davies, A Carpenter, H Craven 17;

T Perez, C Roberts, W Peyton, M Eskins 16.

T Bishop, B Knight, L Davies, D Kuhnell

18; R Izatt, R Walker, K Pearson, T Pearson 19.

G Solomon, W Vaughan, L Cundliffe, K Chedgoy 16; B Ford, S Davies, D Hooper, J Fear 23.

Score: 65 – 82.

CADOXTON V PENARTH – SVL

THE final SVL game for Cadoxton A took place at home against Penarth; with the weather threatening it was decided to play just 18 ends.

The result was two rinks each, with Penarth having the slightly better aggregate.

John Stewart's rink trailed until the 12th end when the scores were levelled at 10-10.

The final six ends went in the home sides favour, 10 shots to 5.

Roy Harding's rink failed to score during the first four ends, conceding eight shots.

There was an improvement but they still faced a five-shot deficit going into the final end, which they overcame with a '6' for a one shot success.

The rink skipped by Derek Brook lost a 4-1

CADOXTON BOWLS ROUND-UP

Leyshon disqualified by racing authority

A DISCIPLINARY panel of the British Horseracing Authority has declared Mr Andrew Leyshon, of Pyle, a disqualified person for nine months.

Mr Leyshon was found to be in breach of regulations in respect of his allowing/declaring two horses – *Check Up* and *Dancing Lyra* – to run at unrecognised 'flapping' meetings in Ireland and Scotland in 2009 under the assumed names of *Patsy's Boy*, *The Stig* and *The Paparazzi*.

Check Up, ridden by Bridgend's William Oakes, won the men's open race at the Curre & Llangibby Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Howick near Chepstow last year in fine style, coming home six lengths clear of Viv Hughes' *Sheikman* who, like *Check Up*, was qualified with the Llangeinor Hunt.

The Panel accepted an admission from Mr Leyshon and disqualified him for nine months from May 27, 2011 until

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

February 26, 2012.

Check Up and *Dancing Lyra* can no longer run under rules or between-the-flags and Mr Leyshon is not allowed to go racing under rules or attend point-to-point meetings. Nor can he visit any licensed training centres as The Jockey Club, or Horse Racing Authority as it is today, have always considered 'flapping meetings' as illegal and outside of their control, and anyone taking part in them have been automatically banned.

Trooper Clarence
EVAN Williams' seven-year-old bay gelding Trooper Clarence landed a hat-trick at Newton Abbot when scoring by eight lengths from Won More Night.

A winner previously at Bangor-on-Dee and Stratford, *Trooper Clarence* was ridden by stable jockey Paul

Moloney.

Lady Myfanwy
PAUL Miles's prolific mare Lady Myfanwy, which is qualified with the Ystrad & Taf Fechan Hunt, won the opener at Stratford last Friday.

Ridden by Claire Hart, *Lady Myfanwy*, who is trained by Paul's wife Myfanwy, out-jumped her eight rivals to win by eight lengths from *ShoudHaveHadThat*.

Season ends
THE 2010/11 Welsh point-to-point season comes to an end with the Pembrokeshire Hunt Steeplechases at Trecoed next Saturday.

A number of horses from the Vale will be making the long journey and an exciting wind-up to the season is promised.

Cowbridge under-15 cricketers make good start

COWBRIDGE under-15s cricket team has won the opening four games to the new season.

Well led by their captain Sam Wood, the team has won the first three league games in the Cardiff and Vale league as well as the first round of the zonal Welsh Clubs Knock Out Cup.

First up in the league was an away match against the Lisvane Griffins on their new club ground in St Mellons.

Having found the location with some difficulty, the team battled well to reach 138 for 7 in their allocated 20 overs.

Senior players Sam Wood (15) and Chris Brace (20 runs) contributed well, but an undefeated eighth wicket partnership of 46 runs by Sean Rowland (35) and Alex Arnot (13) gave Sam the luxury of using eight of his bowlers in the visitors' reply.

Deputants Rafi Shrizard and Sadr Zaman bowled well in their first-ever game of cricket, but the left arm spin of Harri Collier (2 for 16) ensured victory by 20 runs.

The second league game was at home against the much vaunted St Fagan's team.

The opposition offered Cowbridge to bat first and the senior players of Wood (22), Chris Brace (ret 35) and Harri Collier (not out 31) amassed 117 for 3.

The opening pair for St Fagan's of Lennon and Moore, both having to retire having reached 35, placed the visitors in

a strong position but good tight bowling especially by Sean Rowland (1 for 16) kept the scoring rate down and an eventual win by 9 runs.

In the third league match, away to Dinas Powys Eagles, the same trio of batsmen from the previous match scored most of the runs – Sam (37 ret), Harri (38 ret) and Chris (13).

The opening bowling partnership of Rafi Shrizard (4 for 12 in 3 overs) and George Gibson (1 for 6 in 3) enabled the captain to give bowling time to the younger players.

The delayed match of the Welsh cup was the next on the agenda at home to Penarth.

Again, Sam lost the toss but made amends by scoring a retired 52 not out at the start of the innings.

It was the turn of young Dan Evans, making his first start to the season, with 22 runs and Jack Faulkner (18 runs) that gave the home team a respectable total of 119 for 3.

Against the young opponents, Sam gave opportunity for nine bowlers to be used.

Some were found wanting, and Penarth were always up with the run rate and it was left to Rafi, Sadr and Harri to bring victory by 8 runs.

In the next round the team will play a home match against the winners of Dinas Powys or Sully.

Well done boys for an excellent start to the season.

Rollerdance club's first event success!

PICTURED RIGHT: Lesley Fletcher, Tara Ivins and Katie Vaughan.

THE newly-formed Roller Figure and Dance Skating Club, Clwb Cymru from from the Vale, took five competitors to their first competition at Newbury on Sunday, May 22.

Altogether in 21 events, there were a total of 178 competitors.

Starting at 8am, Katie Vaughan took to the floor in the first event to gain fifth place.

It was a supreme effort by Katie at her first competition.

In another event, Tara Ivins did herself proud by finishing fourth and Amy Goodwin eighth.

In a more difficult event dancing the blues,



Kilian Tara did extremely well coming sixth. In the team event, Lesley, Amy and Tara were placed seventh.

Altogether, it was an extremely good day and their trainer, Sheila Davies, was very proud, but there is lots of hard work to follow.

The club skate at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre on Saturday afternoons, and Tuesday evenings in Barry at the Colcot.

Finding venues has been very difficult, as a good sized hall with a good surface is a must.

SD



ABOVE: Amy Goodwin and Katie Vaughan.

Windsor ladies pull off a stunning win



Mixed doubles winners: Emma Thomas and Morgan Williams (right), with runners-up Jill Halpin and John Adamson, presented by Windsor president, Chris Smith.

WINDSOR ladies first team pulled off a stunning victory against visiting team Rhiwbina, beating them in extremely difficult weather conditions.

The match was played with winds gusting across the courts, making it nearly impossible to serve accurately, or play correctly.

However, the team consisting of Bethan Pilcher, Lowri Hughes, Cathy O'Doherty, Sarah Parkhouse, Leanne Mackey, and Beth Hughes knuckled down to the task and beat the visitors 4-2.

Team captain Beth Hughes, paired with Leanne Mackey, won both their rounds.

The men's fourth team also played a home match on the same day, in the same blustery conditions.

They welcomed Stow Park of Newport's second team, which included a strong first pair, but lacked strength in depth.

With the score standing at 3-2 and the draw assured, Windsor first pairing of Nigel Gabriel and Matt Holmes fought off a late rally from their opponents to clinch the match 4-2.

Mark Davies and Phil Davies had won both their rubbers, while the partnership of John Ray and Anthony Phillips lost to the Stow first pair, after comfortably defeating their first round opponents.

As the fourth team settles into its new division following promotion last year, the team has now won one, lost one and drawn one.

The ladies second team meanwhile

couldn't emulate the first team's success against Rhiwbina, but put up a creditable performance, going down 4-2 away against the strong Cardiff side.

Despite being short of players before the encounter, captain Kay Clarke brought together a mixture of youth and experience which gave the home side a run for their money.

Clarke and Megan Boot lost a tough match against the Rhiwbina first pair, but then Bev House and Edwina Gill gelled as a pair and beat the Rhiwbina third outfit in a third set tie break.

Things then got even better when Linda Ellis and Emma Thomas turned on their brand of scintillating tennis to beat the first pairing.

Meanwhile, this week saw the culmination of the club's internal annual handicap tournament, played in spring sunshine.

The handicap system provides an opportunity for less well-established players to compete effectively against stronger opposition, and is a highly popular part of the club's tennis scene. The results were:

Ladies singles – winner, Beth Hughes, runner-up, Teca Phillips; Mens singles – winner, John Cox, runner-up John Adamson; Ladies doubles – winners, Anne Davies and Edwina Gill, runners-up, Jill Halpin and Beth Hughes; Mens doubles – winners, Simon Parkhouse and Tom Bellingham, runners-up, John Adamson and Anthony Phillips; Mixed doubles – winners, Emma Thomas and Morgan Williams, runners-up, Jill Halpin and John Adamson.

NG



Photographs by HEATHER MARCH

JACK'S PONY SUCCESS!

FOLLOWING some excellent racing at the Countryside Alliance point-to-point at Bonvilston on bank holiday Monday, the crowd enjoyed three pony races.

In the first race for riders 9-15 years and ponies up to 12.2hh (128cm), Jack Tudor (10) of Merthyr Mawr, dressed in his father Jonathan Tudor's well known colours of yellow, green and white, rode a cracking race to win on his 14-year-old pony, *Bugsy*.



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BARRY ROMILLY (A) took to the green for the last of their five scheduled SVLA games against Llantwit Major knowing that the SVLS trophy had already been won due to the previous fixtures, as Romilly had already secured 52 out of a possible 56 points available.

Rink 2, skipped by Bill Hewitt got off to a balanced start with the scores even until the seventh end when Romilly started to pull away.

With several high scores of two 5's, a 6 and a 7 they were soon in a commanding lead and won the rink 29 shots to 16, winning 15 of the 21 ends.

Rink 3, skipped by Vince McFarland, lost the first two ends with a 2 and a 1 but pulled into

the lead on the third end with a tally of 4 shots.

They retained the lead throughout the rest of the game with steady scoring of 2s and 3s and won the rink with a score of 26 shots to 11, winning 13 of the 21 ends.

Rink 4, skipped by Bryn Gough, got off to a slow start and were 13-1 down after 7 ends.

The rink then rallied together, changing tactics with bringing the mat up and having shorter ends, and with steady scoring got back into contention within

the next 6 ends, taking the lead for the first time with a score line of 15-14.

Disaster then struck on the 16th end for Llantwit Major as Romilly scored a 7, taking the lead for only the second, but decisive, time in the game, a lead they were never going to give away and ran out 30 shots to 16 winners, winning 12 of the ends to Llantwit Major's 9.

Rink 5, skipped by R Wyatt, were never in any trouble leading from the first end to the

last winning 13 of the 21 ends. The Romilly bowlers also scored a maximum 8 shots on the 20th end to put the match well out of contention, ending up with the biggest win of the day with a margin of 33 shots to 14.

The captain, Keith Clements, expressed his congratulations to his squad, who have given him and the club a magnificent start to the season.

Game score: Barry Romilly 14 (118 shots), Llantwit Major 0 (57 shots). **VM**

Society celebrates anniversary in style

THE Hare and Hounds Golfing Society celebrated its 25th invitation classic event at Cottrell Park's Button Gwinnett course on Friday, May 27.

A total of 28 intrepid golfers took to the course to compete for a glittering array of prizes, including the society's very own green jacket.

Prizes were presented at a celebratory dinner at the Hare and Hounds, Aberthyn. The best team stableford shield was won by David Thursfield, Lee England and Pat Long - Pat also

winning the ladies nearest the pin and longest drive.

The best stableford ladies was won by Tess Janczewski and Mike Board the best stableford for men.

The coveted green jacket was won by Colum Sullivan, with a best gross score of 81 playing off a handicap of 13.

The society was formed way back in 1987 by David Howell, the first and 25th anniversary captain, Gareth Rees, and the current president, Wyn Howells.

DH

Crazy Gang enjoy the tour!

THE Crazy Gang, one of St Andrews Major Golf Club's most respected societies, had their annual tour, which this year was held at the Wiltshire Hotel and Spa in Wootton Bassett.

The format included three games of golf at the Wiltshire club and a fourth game back at St Andrews Major on their return on Saturday.

The first day's golf went well, with 35 players participating and despite problems with the playing quality of the greens, Russell Bryan ended up taking the major honours of the day.

The night started off well but just as the first course was being served, the hotel suffered a power cut and were unable to cook the rest of the meal.

Hastily arranged mini buses took the tour members into Wootton Bassett where, after a few drinks, the locals of the Royal public house were treated to the tour's rendition of *Delilah, Green Green Grass of Home* and any other song they could think of with a Welsh connection.

Strong winds and rain did not deter the second day's play with Danny Reid clinching top spot on the day.

Friday was slightly better, not too much rain and the wind had died down enough for Arthur Lambeth to take the third day's title.

After an early breakfast, the tour set off back to Wales for their final match at St Andrews Major. The quality of the home greens was excellent, allowing Clive Jukes to score an end of tour best to land the final day's main trophy.

Overall winners of the tour were: 1st, Arthur Lambeth 135 points; 2nd, Alan Bannister 132; 3rd, Russell Bryan 130.

On the final day of the tour at St Andrews Major, Roger Parsons sank a hole in one on the 15th green. Had it been a week earlier, when the Sponsors Cup was taking place, he would now have been the proud owner of a Nissan Juke!

St Andrews Major hold an annual Sponsors Cup day, where they invite local businesses to enter a four-ball in a friendly stableford competition.

Twenty-three teams took part, and this year's worthy winners were the Tooty Froities, recruited from the club's ladies section.

A full list of winners for the tour and competitions is available on the members website, www.samgolfclub.com.

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- 06 55 TOYOTA Rav4 2.0 VVT-i XTR 5-dr station wagon.** In carbon quartz grey with Lisbon cloth interior, cruise control, climate control, electric sunroof, cd, alloy wheels, only 54,000 miles£9,495
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- 07 57 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 16v Breeze 5-dr MPV.** In Black sapphire with charcoal interior, reversing sensors, CD, air con, privacy glass, only 23,580 miles£5,995
- 07 07 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 16v (115ps) life 5-dr hatchback.** In metallic silver with charcoal interior, air con, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, anti-lock brakes, only 50,200 miles£5,495
- 05 55 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 16v Club Automatic.** In moonland grey, with charcoal interior, alloy wheels, air con, immobiliser, power steering, only 62,200 miles£4,995

SPORTS

- 09 59 HONDA Civic 1.4i-Vtec TypeS 3-dr hatchback** in milano red with half suede interior, cd, traction control, immobiliser, alarm, alloy wheels, only 16,970 miles£12,495
- 09 09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite** in graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles£13,495
- 07 57 PEUGEOT 207 1.6HDI 110 sport 5-dr hatchback.** In onyx black with black/grey interior, air con, cd, electric windows and mirrors, front fog, ISOFIX anchorage points, only 57,000 miles£6,495
- 07 57 PEUGEOT 207 1.6HDI 110 sport 3-dr hatchback.** In bright red with dark interior, air con, cd, electric windows and mirrors, only 44,658 miles£6,495
- 06 56 MINI Cooper S 1.6 (175bhp) 3-dr hatchback.** In in chilli red with black cloth/red leather ray combination upholstery, chrome line exterior, rear spoiler, radio/cd, panoramic roof, alloy wheels, air con, cd, electric windows, only 47,450 miles£9,995
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- 05 55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible.** In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles£4,995
- 05 54 MG ZT-T 1.8T 160 5-dr estate.** In Royal blue with Monaco ash leather interior, air con, only 34,000 miles£3,995
- 03 53 HONDA Civic 1.6 Vtec SE Sport 3-Dr Hatchback.** In Aqua green, half black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, heated electric mirrors, CD, only 46,400 miles£4,495
- 03 53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-dr Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles£3,995

- 03 03 BMW 3 Series 3.0 330 Ci Convertible** in Topaz Blue with Montana grey leather interior, 6-CD changer, heated seats, automatic air cn, traction control system, only 55,200 miles£9,495
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Pictured with the examiners are the successful candidates: First degrees, Lucy Newman, Dominic Todd, Michael Robertson and Niels Grasveld; Second degrees, Bradley Halford, Dean Sullivan, Charlotte Sullivan and Paul Halford.

School's black belt success

OVER the weekend of May 10, the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do held their first black belt grading of the year.

The grading tested

both the candidates and examiners to the full.

Seven students from the Cadoxton school were testing for their first and second degrees. All students were put through their paces by

seventh degree and Master Ron Thomas, seventh degree.

The examination consisted of all the traditional aspects of Tae Kwon Do - patterns, set sparring, free sparring, self-defence, weapons and

theory tests, and to complete the exam, a power test consisting of breaking wood with the hands and feet.

After the exam, Master Teeuwissen and Master Thomas complimented the group and their instructors on their improving standard of Tae Kwon Do.

A celebration buffet and disco was held at the West End labour club, where certificates and new black belts were presented to all the successful students.

For further information and training times, telephone Barry 406372 or 07811934079.

RON THOMAS

Paul's karate success

THE Wales versus England British Karate Kyokushinkai (BKK) championships were held recently.

Paul Stephens, from the Rising-Sun Dojo Barry, was selected to represent Wales at the event held at Bishop Stortford, where heavyweight Paul was to face his heavier opponent in the arena.

The match took three rounds of full contact knockdown karate to decide an overall winner, and Paul was declared

that winner.

Overall, Wales took the coveted British event and came back victorious, gaining the majority of wins after dominating.

Brothers and instructors Lee and Spencer Bennett were pleased with Paul, and proud to have another British champion student within the club.

If anybody wishes to train at the Rising-Sun-Karate club, contact Lee Bennett on 07811110368.

LB

Bad news as the Wanderers go down at Hopkinstown!

FOLLOWING the previous week's resounding win over Llantwit Major, Barry Wanderers' Second XI came back down to earth with a comprehensive drubbing at the hands of Hopkinstown.

Optimism had abounded earlier in the day when the first arrivals, having found themselves aimlessly wandering the streets in a fruitless search for the ground, came across a young woodland scamp who guided them expertly through a dense forest and into a clearing, beyond which lay the homage to the 1970s that is Hopkinstown CC.

Winning the toss on a dry track, Wanderers' skipper Barnes elected to bat and, along with opening partner Coleman, immediately vindicated the decision by strolling to 34/0 off seven overs before the captain mistimed a drive to cover and was caught for 21.

Shortly afterwards, Hopkinstown brought Pugh on at the Abyss End, a decision that ultimately was to decide the game. Loose-limbed and with seemingly elastic wrists, Pugh threw the Wanderers' plans into immediate disarray, producing some prodigious swing to dismiss Ridgwell, Kunal and Davies in quick succession.

After Burgin nicked

Hopkinstown v Barry Wanderers, BAWCC 107 (33 overs); Hopkinstown CC 108/3 (12.1 overs)

one to the keeper at the other end, the Wanderers were suddenly reduced to a cataclysmic 64/5.

Meanwhile, the weather had deteriorated rapidly, constant drizzle making life difficult for bowlers and batsmen alike. Krishna offered temporary respite in the form of some dashing stroke-play, one cover drive reminiscent of the great Ranjitsinhji himself, before he slipped on the wet track and was run out for 16.

When the stoic Coleman eventually fell for 27, the tail offered no more than a tired death-rattle, and the Wanderers were soon all out for 107 from 33 overs.

The downpour continued throughout the tea interval, and conditions had worsened considerably by the time the Wanderers took to the field. Enough sawdust to decorate the floor of an 80s wine bar was deposited at each end as the opening attack of Wade and Ridgwell sought an early breakthrough.

Despite taking a wicket each, runs came far too easily as the Hopkinstown batsmen aggressively chased down their target.

At 54 for 2, play was temporarily halted while the two captains discussed the perilous

conditions. Skipper Barnes generously agreed to play on, so another acre of forest was cleared to replenish the dwindling sawdust supplies.

With the game all but over, Wanderers turned

to the wily Ellis, who quickly accounted for the impressive Hopkins for 35 with his 'surprise' good ball.

It was, however, all too late and by the time the home side knocked off the remaining few runs with 33 overs still remaining, the lubricated crowd had long retreated into the warmth of the bar.

AF

SISTERS SWIM FOR SUCCESS!



Ffion and Elizabeth McCulloch

TWO sisters from the Barry ASC travelled to Newport to take part in South East Wales Regional Development Meet 2011 and achieved successes in both the 8 and 11 year old age groups, the latter section being contested by some 40 swimmers.

This year, the pentathlon event took place on one day meaning that both girls had to swim all five events on the same day. The times from each event are then added together to produce the top 10 swimmers in each age group.

Ffion McCulloch, swimming in the eight-year-old age group, produced four personal bests, shaving two seconds off both her 25M backstroke and the 100M individual medley. These results meant that Ffion secured second place in the overall event.

Elizabeth McCulloch also produced four per-

sonal bests and just missed out on achieving a clean sweep by one second. The 200M individual medley saw a reduction in her previous best by some six seconds and in the 100M backstroke, a reduction of five seconds. These results meant that Elizabeth finished fourth in the overall event, just missing out on the third place spot by one second.

Although it was a very long and tiring day, the excellent results produced by both swimmers meant that everyone left feeling very happy.

Barry Amateur Swimming Club is always looking for new members to join the club. If you would like a trial, please phone Mrs Heulwen Cooper on 01446 733784. We swim at Barry Leisure Centre on Mondays, Fridays and Sunday and at Cardiff International Pool on Mondays and Thursdays.

For more information please also look on the Barry Amateur Swimming Club website.

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Bridgend and Vale athletes shine in Malta

NINETEEN athletes from Barry and Vale Harriers recently flew to Malta to participate in the Malta Invitational athletic competition with phenomenal success.

The athletes competed in two competitions; junior (under-15) and senior (under-17 and under-20).

The Barry and Vale athletes, who were competing against a number of international teams, including three elite teams from England, won seven gold, three silver and 15 bronze medals.

As well as achieving a significant medal tally many also recorded personal bests in their individual performances.

This is the second year athletes from Barry and

Vale Harriers have undertaken warm-weather training in Malta.

Following the first successful visit in February 2010, the club was approached to return to participate in this year's international competition over the Easter period; a fantastic start to the season!

Athletes representing Barry and Vale Harriers: Matthew Collins, Ieuan Orton, Jacob Briscoe, Arran Reid, Tom Williams, Ellie Carter, Matthew Edwards, Danielle Close, Zoe Jenkins, Huw Bennett, Faye Gibbon, Chelsea Hutcheon, Richard Dangerfield, Tillie Carter, Carys Knapman, Emily Wooster, Genevieve Watts, Sarah Herbert and Leanne Jones.

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08-09	RENAULT CLIO 1.2i CAMPUS 3 DOOR	CAPSAICUM RED 26000 MILES	E4065	10-00	RENAULT SCENIC 1.8i EXTREME	PACIFIC BLUE ONLY 15 MILES	E3605
08-09	RENAULT MEGANE 1.500i TECH RUN	MERCURY 28000 MILES	E6665	10-00	RENAULT SCENIC 1.8i EXTREME	MERCURY SILVER ONLY 15 MILES	E10485
07-07	RENAULT MEGANE 1.8i DYNAMIQUE	GREY 33000 MILES	E4665	10-10	NEW MOD MEGANE 1.8i DYN 17 T 5 DR	STONE 12000 MILES	E3665
08-09	RENAULT MEGANE 1.8i C/ CABRIOLET	RUBY 10000 MILES	E7565	10-10	NEW MOD MEGANE 1.500i DYN 5 DR	SILVER 17000 MILES	E10665
06-06	RENAULT MODUS 1.4i DEXIS 5 DR	PLATINUM SILVER 11000 MILES	E4665	07-07	RENAULT ESPACE 2.000i(150)	7 SEAT 36000 MILES	E11485
08-09	RENAULT MODUS 1.2i OAGSS 5 DR	EXT BLUE 11000 MILES	E6405	10-09	RENAULT LAGUNA COUPE 2.0i 2 DR	BLACK 10 000 MILES	E12985
08-09	RENAULT MODUS 1.500i DYNAMIQUE	SILVER 19000 MILES	E6665	08-08	RENAULT LAGUNA COUPE 2.000i 2 DR	GREY 36000 MILES	E11985
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LEFT:
The
Cadoxton
Imps
under-15s:
they had a
"fantastic
year"

Imps under-15s look back on a great year – with more to come!

CADOXTON Imps under-15s have had a fantastic season this year in a competitive league, finishing as runners up and getting to the semi-final of the local cup, which was quite an achievement.

The squad included one of the Vales top keepers, Sam Rees, Davies whose outstanding talent was also recognised by Cardiff City's development academy.

There was solid defensive work from Gage Waller, Tom Dyball, Jacob Burgess, Jo Robinson and Louis Burrows; a

highly skilful, energetic and hard-working midfield with Kieron Ashton, Kieron Thomas, Kyle Solowyck, Sam Becks, Izaak Farrag and outstanding performers in Ashley Cottle, the impressive Ben Pearce and the dangerous front runners, Callum Harding, Dan Morgan and top goalscorer Jordan Williams.

The coaches said: "The lads have been superb all season. They've trained hard, showed real determination against good footballing teams and have deservedly become one of the top sides in the league."

"We are all disappointed to

have just fallen short of winning the league, but congratulations to Dinas.

"We will be coming back next season to bring the league title to Barry and, with plenty of pre-season training and the same commitment we showed last season, we will have a chance. A big thank you goes to the parents and supporters who have been fantastic all season, as has our referee Callum.

"Thanks also to Gary, Martin, Ian and all the gang at the Imps for the hard work behind the scenes. Finally, a massive thank you to the squad who have been absolutely brilliant all season."

The Cadoxton Imps Summer Ball takes place on Saturday, June 25, and consists of a three-course meal, a female vocalist, disco and prize draws.

Dinas Powys under-14s celebrate double triumph



The all-conquering Dinas Powys under-14s at the Radisson Blu Hotel. (Photograph by www.paulrobertsimages.com)

DINAS Powys under-14s football team is celebrating a double victory, after winning the Vale of Glamorgan Cup and Vale of Glamorgan League this season.

The team, which is sponsored by the Radisson Blu Hotel, beat local rivals Penarth Town to win the league with a 3-0 victory, after beating Sully 1-0 to secure the Vale of Glamorgan Cup.

Under-14s coach, Chris Daw said: "This was never going to be an easy season, as the football played at this level throughout the Vale is highly competitive. However, our team is a strong side and we are

delighted to be bringing home the Vale of Glamorgan Cup.

"To be named League champions is a huge testament to the boys, who have trained extremely hard this year."

The team, coached by Chris Daw and Giles Simpson, played 23 matches, winning 19, losing three and drawing one, scoring a total of 92 goals.

Sally Hughes, general manager of the Radisson Blu Hotel, Cardiff said: "We are delighted to support the team as they look to develop their football careers. Good clubs are at the heart of local communities and we wish the young players all the best for future success."

Squash club presentation

COWBRIDGE Squash Club will hold its club competition finals and presentation night on Saturday, June 4, at the Athletic Club.

The men's singles final will be played at 5pm in the squash club and features another clash between Welsh international and club no.1 Nick Guard, and Jon Bisson, the club's no.2.

This will be followed by the men's doubles final featuring Nick

Guard and Julian Jenkins playing the Llantwit Major duo of Garfield Leask and Colin Giles.

After the matches, at approximately 6.30pm, presentations will be made in the rugby club to the winners and runners up in both competitions, plus a player of the year award and a host of awards to the junior section.

A cold buffet will be available in the bar and all members both present and past are most welcome to attend.

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- T 99 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6 Automatic 5-dr. In red, 6 disc CD changer, fsh, 81k £1,695
- 51 01 TOYOTA Avenis 1.8 5-dr. In silver, sat nav, a/c, e/w, fsh (3 keys), 93k £1,695
- 04 04 DAEWOO Nubira SX 1.6 In green, 5-Dr, A/C, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, FSH, 79k £1,595
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YOUNG BARRY GYMNASTS TAKE A BIG STEP FORWARD

A TOTAL of 22 Barry YMCA gymnasts are flying high after successfully passing their gradings.

Coach Karen Davies said: "Gymnasts have

to complete a number of identified skills on the vault, bars, beam and floor to gain a high enough score to pass their grading.

"In grade 14 and 13, they also have to complete a conditioning set

which tests their flexibility and strength. Grade 14 is the first grade that gymnasts can take, and they have to be a minimum of eight years of age in the year of the event to sit the grading.

"For some of the Barry gymnasts this was their first event outside of club but this did not deter them from having a great time.

"Barry were represented in grade 14 by Kelsey Cross, Lara Watkins, Seren Williams, Saffron Maurice, Caitlin Meadows, Erin McLoughlin and Dee Clarke, all of whom passed.

"Also, Tesni Gardiner, Gabriella Hooley and Lucy Miles successfully completed their grade 13.

"Caitlin Lord, Ellie Peterson, Elisha Watkins, Ffion Jackson, Megan Sully, Sophie Birkin and Tia Ali all passed their grade 12, with Alana Stokes, Ellice Stockford and Nia Davies replicating their success in grade 11.

"Emma Worrall was entered in grade 9, which she successfully passed and placed second overall in Wales.

"Well done to all gymnasts and coaches."

KD

Cowbridge bowlers search for consistency

COWBRIDGE lady bowlers again had a mixed week of matches.

On the Monday, a rink of Mary Thomas, Pauline McAllen, Joy Woolford and May Jones went to Bridgend to play for the Vale president against the vice-president, but only managed two ends before rain stopped play, so they all played bingol!

On Thursday, the ladies played a team from Pentyrch who could only manage two rinks, but put up a good show, winning one rink and losing one.

The Cowbridge ladies had a good win on skip Shirley Wilkinson's rink, helped by

Margaret Cooper, Sylvia Hole (a new bowler) and July Springett, winning 22-7.

On Anne Jarvis's rink of Dorothy Pritchard (another new bowler), Barbara Slade and Joy Woolford, they just lost 15-16.

The men played Millwood BC twice, first in a Munro Cup match at home, winning 82-57, with wins on three of the four rinks.

Rink scores: Gerwyn Watkins, Danny Powell, Ron Woolford and skip Brian Kent won 23-17; Terry Dunsford, Rob Lewis, Alan Wallace and skip Norman Wilkinson won 26-13; Charles Sanders, Clive Pritchard, Nick Davey and skip Ron Frayling

won 20-1.

The only losing rink was skip Bryon Richards' by 13-21.

Then, on the Saturday in a friendly match away at Millwood, there was a reversal, with Cowbridge men losing on all four rinks by 36-99. The best rink was Roger Barwick's who lost 15-23. The other members were Derek Woolley, Clive Pritchard and John Jones.

Other rink scores: Dennis Snelling's rink lost 8-21; Norman Wilkinson's rink lost 6-29; and Bryon Richards' rink lost 7-26.

Not the best of weeks!

NW

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Sponsors' Cup Day held at St Andrews Major

LEFT: The winning team, the 'Tooty Frooties' from left to right are Norman Weaver (club president), Rachel Hooper, Sam Low, Karen Blatchford, Helen Tweddle and John Bryan (club captain).

ST ANDREWS Major Golf Club has recently seen a hive of activity for main club events.

Starting on Sunday, May 15, there was the Andy Anderson Memorial Shield where, despite horrendous weather, Harry Emery retained the title for the second year, on count back from Lindsey Lock in second place and Jeff Westcott in third.

The second round of the Ghurkas Trophy took place on Monday which was won by Mike James, with Barry Velda second and Alan Bannister in third place.

Throughout the week there were several individual singles and pairs competition matches and on Saturday, May 21, the club held the annual Sponsors Cup day, which was attended by 23 teams of four contestants from local businesses and club members.

The day started with coffee and bacon rolls followed by 18 holes of Stableford competition then a two-course meal on return to the clubhouse followed by the prize presentations.

There were many individual and team prizes given out on the day but, unfortunately, the star 'Hole in One' prize of a brand new Nissan Juke, sponsored by Wessex Garages, was not won.

However, Brian Sullivan did win a Nissan Juke for the weekend in the prize draw!

The winning team were the 'Tooty Frooties', recruited from the club's ladies section with M & R Plumbing in second place and the club's Crazy Gang in third place.

Russell Barnett had the best individual Stableford score. Cian Brendan-Gavin (a former member of Only Men Aload), got nearest the pin on the 15th (which was also the Nissan Juke 'Hole in One' prize tee!).

Sunday was also the Champion of Champions Trophy, where all the competition winners from last year play for the coveted trophy.

Despite gale force winds and frequent showers, there were several excellent scores.

Deana Jukes took first place ahead of Helen Tweddle in second and Mike Preece in third place. Full results can be found on the members website www.samgolfclub.com.

JOHN LOCK

Barry under-8s' plate success



ON Sunday, Barry RFC held a tag tournament for their under-7s and under-8s teams, with teams from the local Blues region attending.

Barry, who have two under-8s teams, played very well, with some amazing tagging, and not to mention great teamwork, leading to some fantastic tries.

It was a very successful day with the Barry under-8s A team winning the Plate for the club.

All under-8s boys and girls are now looking forward to the new season in September when they start tackling, with training taking place throughout the summer.

If your child is interested in playing at any age group come along on a Sunday and have a look.

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Continental	195/65VR15	£58.55	£110	£210	

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Continental	195/65VR15	£58.55	£110	£210	
Continental	195/65VR15	£58.55	£110	£210	

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Continental	195/65VR15	£52.44	£99	£190	
Continental	195/65VR15	£70.29	£130	£250	
Continental	195/65VR15	£58.55	£110	£210	
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GEM sport

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

Will Wales really get a licence to thrill?

AS Wales open their quartet of summer preliminaries to autumn's Rugby World Cup at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on Saturday, supporters can be sure of only one thing – if history is any guide, it is likely to be a free-scoring affair.

Lining up against a Wales side for only the eighth time, hot foot from Twickenham where they overcame England Saxons 38-32 last weekend, are the familiar black and white hoops of the famed Barbarians, whose unabashed ethos is adventure and attack.

The Baabaas have tamed the red dragon five times in their seven previous encounters, beginning on April 17, 1915 at Cardiff Arms Park in a game billed as a military international between Wales and England, though the latter also included two Irishmen, and a lone Welshman who had been capped by South Africa!

Wales lost the wartime morale booster 10-26 and have won only twice since – in 1996

(31-10) and in 2004 (42-0) recording a rare whitewash in the seven clashes that all told have yielded a combined total of 400 points for the two sides.

Unlike England, Wales will be awarding full caps against the world's most famous 'scratch' team – controversial, yes, but perhaps an indication that head coach Warren Gatland does not view this as a light-hearted, end of season throw-about, but serious game time preparation for his projected World Cup squad.

It is an opportunity not only to assess individual form, but also the collective morale of players who have had precious little to celebrate in yet another disappointing season that has seen the four Welsh regions again fail to perform in Europe, as well as the Magners league.

In fact, if anything, playing standards have regressed – with the Blues and Ospreys in particular causing most concern, given their superior resources – and their importance to the national squad, especially in World Cup year.

The abrupt axing this week of Cardiff

City manager, Dave Jones, brought into stark relief the harsh contrast between the two sports when it comes to dealing with a team's repeated failures, and should not have been lost on his rugby equivalents.

In the continuing fall-out from Wales' lack-lustre Six Nations displays, an embattled Gatland has felt compelled to defend himself against charges that Welsh play has become too 'conservative' under his management.

"That is definitely not the way we like to play, or coach," he has insisted. "We encourage players to go out there and make the right decisions, to play heads-up rugby. We want to be smart and take some risks against the Barbarians".

The fact that some young faces, including Dragons' rising star, Toby Faletau, were in the match squad was "an indication of how we want to play. We are giving the players a licence to thrill".

Bold words, indeed, but it remains to be seen if Wales can eliminate the basic errors and indiscipline that have undone so many promising performances in the past, never

mind go on to achieve the fluidity and ruthless precision that is an absolute pre-requisite for lasting success at the highest level.

Certainly, there is precious little time for Gatland & Co to experiment and "take some risks", with RWC 2011 now looming ever larger on the horizon, though at least there is nothing more at stake than national pride on Saturday.

Even so, Gatland's starting line-up will be keenly scrutinised when it is announced later today, to confirm "indications of how we want them to play".

Meanwhile, the Ospreys, in particular will face even more competition next season, when stylish Swansea City proudly take their place in football's Premier League.

With the prospect of the likes of Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea drawing in massive crowds to the Liberty Stadium, it could well have a marked effect on attendances at Ospreys matches.

Unless, of course, the latter follow Gatland's expressed intention of giving players "a licence to thrill".



LEFT: The Pyle and Kenfig Ladies first team girls in Creigiau where they beat St Mellons.

PLYE AND KENFIG LADIES GOLF ROUND-UP Three wins for first team!

THE Pyle and Kenfig GC Ladies third team recently played two home games and won them both.

Their first game was against Gower and the team members were Ros Williams, Heather Jenkins, Kay Sinclair, Gaynor Lavelle and Cath David. Pyle and Kenfig won 4-1.

The second match was against St Athan and the result was 3-2 to Pyle & Kenfig. The team were Ros Williams, Heather Jenkins, Kay Sinclair, Hannah Johnson and Gaynor Lavelle.

They should have played an away match

against Brynhill on May 23, but this had to be postponed due to heavy rain and gale force winds. The new fixture date is Monday, August 8.

Team captain Kay Sinclair said that the commitment and enthusiasm of all third team players plus reserves "has to be seen to be believed".

They are a great team and with such dedication deserve to have a really great season! Their next match is at home on June 3 against Brynhill.

FIRST TEAM'S THREE WINS
THE first team have had a busy month but a successful one.

They played two matches, against Gower and then Creigiau, resulting in two home wins.

Captain Sian Thomas was pleased, saying that it was a good start.

The first team played the qualifying round of the Welsh Team Championships against St Mellons, which had to be played on a neutral course (Creigiau) on May 6.

The matches were hard fought but P&K Ladies first team came up with goods and beat St Mellons – who are in the first division – so it was quite a win.

They have now qualified for the finals at Aberystwyth Golf Club

on Friday, June 17.

Team captain Sian Thomas congratulated her team: Alison Hurry, Cheryl Western, Claire Morris, and Sue Forbes and their caddies: Cora Edwards, Teri Ward, Mary Ellis, Pam Williams and Sheila John.

The team that will represent Pyle & Kenfig in the Welsh Team Championships will be Sian Thomas, Alison Hurry, Cheryl Western, Claire Morris, Sue Forbes and Cora Edwards.

Porthcawl boy signs for top flight Swans

A YOUNG Porthcawl footballer has taken the first steps on a long ladder to the Premier League!

Brandon Cooper has signed for Swansea City FC after training with the Swansea City development academy for four years.

Brandon was recently given the opportunity of a six-week trial with the Centre of Excellence. His performance impressed the coaches and he was invited to the Liberty stadium to put pen to paper and officially sign the contract with the Football Association.

His mother Catherine said: "Brandon's love of football started at three years of age when he began training with Tony Morgan at Porthcawl United, and with Tony's encouragement and support, Brandon was eventually scouted by Swansea City at the age of seven to train with them."



Brandon Cooper with family members and Swansea manager Brendan Rodgers.

The signing could not have come at a better time for Brandon, as Swansea City are now playing in the Premier league, which will have a huge impact on their youth teams.

Brandon's most successful season to date has also seen him captain both Bridgend District Rugby Schools and Porthcawl RFC under-11s.

He recently had the honour to play outside half for West Wales First XV and receive his first Welsh Cap.

Bridgend Leisure Leagues latest six-a-side football

PERSIL BOYS look set to wrap up runners-up spot in the Bridgend six-a-side Sunday Premier Division as they eased to a 3-0 win over Hangover Heroes.

Blackjack got a morale boosting win in Division One by the same scoreline, Minter Phoenix going down to defeat, while Misfits' romp continued at the summit, opening up a nine point gap after seeing off Laleston Lions 2-1.

The top two crossed swords in the

Wednesday six-a-side league, and the point earned by table toppers Beer Attack in a 1-1 draw against El Wapos was enough to see them over the line to clinch the title.

Little F still have an outside chance of runners-up spot after they required just the solitary goal to overcome FC Ogmores.

Anyone who wants to join the six-a-side football leagues in Bridgend can call 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

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